



MARVEL
Giant-Sized Annual

GIANT-SIZED ANNUAL

MARVEL AGE

3
1987

ONLY
75¢

...AND NOW, LIVE FROM
THE MARVEL UNIVERSE, IT'S
THE FRED HEMBECK SHOW!

DAVID
LEITERMAN, EAT
YOUR HEART OUT!

**SPECIAL ALL-NEW
COMICS SECTION
BY MARVEL'S
TOP TALENTS:**

Jack Abel
Brent Anderson
Craig Anderson
Terry Austin
Adam Braustein
Bret Blevins
Jon Bogdanove
Brett Breeding
Danny Bulanadi
John Buscema
Sal Buscema
Chris Claremont
Peter David
Steve Englehart
Ron Frenz
Steve Geiger
Peter B. Gillis
Mark Gruenwald
Richard Howell
Bob Layton
Jim Lee
Rich Leonard
Mike Machlan
Todd McFarlane
David Michelinie
Al Milgrom
Jim Mooney
Tom Morgan
Ann Nocenti
Kevin Nowlan
Jim Owsley
Tom Palmer
Whitce Portacio
Marshall Rogers
Joe Rubinstein
Mara Silvestri
Louise Simonson
Joe Sinnott
Joanne Spaldie
Roger Stern
Bob Wiacek
Scott Williams



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MARVEL AGE

SALICRUP'S SECTION

Hi, everybody! I'm **Jim Salicrup**, the editor of **MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE** and the director of *The Fred Hembeck Show*! I'm here to perform an old television custom called warming up the audience! If you've ever seen *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson* live, you know that **Ed McMahon** does the warm-up. Basically, the warm-up is designed to get all you nice folks in a good mood before the show starts. That makes it easier for the star when he comes out — he doesn't have to perform to a cold audience. And I'm sure you all know just how painful that can be!

But seriously, folks, we've got a great show planned for you today. We'll be looking at what will be coming up in that crazy, nutty place we like to call the Marvel Universe. Joining **Fred** will be, in alphabetical order, those crazy Canadians, **Alpha Flight**...

(Applause)

... the East and West Coast Avengers ...

(Applause)

... that ol' Living Legend of World War II, **Captain America** ...

(Applause)

... the man without fear, **Daredevil** ...

(Applause)

... the stars of the world's greatest comic mag, **the Fantastic Four** ...

(Applause)

... the skyrider of the spaceways, and a really cosmic kind of guy, **the Silver Surfer** ...

(Applause)

... he's mean, he's gray, he's **the Incredible Hulk** — accept no Hulksters-come-latelies ...

(Applause)

... the ever-invincible, **Iron Man** ...

(Applause)

... here to plug **MARVEL UNIVER-**

SE, none other than **Uatu, the Watcher** ...

(Applause)

... those super-powered **Power** kids, **Power Pack** ...

(Applause)

... and a guy I've been working a lot with lately, **the Amazing Spider-Man** ...

(Applause)

... the super heroes that none dare call morbid, **Strikeforce: Morituri** — and, yeah, I know they're not part of the Marvel Universe, but what the hey

(Applause)

... the god of thunder, **the Mighty Thor** ...

(Applause)

... and that gang of mutants, **the New Mutants, X-Factor, and X-Men!**

(Applause)

Hey, you guys are a really great audience! So let's get this show on the road! Heeere's **Fred** ...

—Jim Salicrup

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"LIVE! FROM DEEP INSIDE THE MARVEL UNIVERSE!"

IT'S

AND NOW A MAN WHO SPENDS HIS FREE TIME TRYING TO CONVINCE TED TURNER TO FUND THE COLORIZATION OF THE COMPLETE RUN OF Tales of the ZOMBIE, FRED HEMBECK!!

WE HAVE A PRETTY EXCITING SHOW FOR YOU TONIGHT! WE'LL BE DELVING INTO THE LIFESTYLES OF THE MUTATED AND SUPERHEROIC, AND WE'LL BE FINDING OUT WHAT'S UPCOMING IN EACH OF THEIR LIVES. DR. DOOM, IF YOU'RE WATCHING, SWITCH OVER TO NIGHTLINE, WOULD YOU? I'D RATHER YOU FIND OUT TED KOPPEL'S SECRETS, DIG?

WELL, OUR SHOW IS WAY TOO BIG AND EXCITING FOR ME TO CONTINUE MY MUDDLED ATTEMPTS AT HUMOR, SO WHY DON'T WE GET RIGHT TO IT?

CLAPCLAPCLAP
LAPCLAPCLAP

TONIGHT, FRED'S GUESTS INCLUDE PRACTICALLY THE ENTIRE MARVEL UNIVERSE, PREVIEWING THEIR ADVENTURES FOR THE YEAR TO COME!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU EVERYONE!

FOLKS, I ASK YOU--I MAY NOT BE AS GOOD LOOKING, BUT DO YOU GET THESE KINDS OF THRILLS ON THE JOAN RIVERS SHOW...

IN THE INTEREST OF FAIRNESS, WE'VE DECIDED TO BRING OUR GUESTS OUT IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, SO IT'S PERFECTLY LOGICAL THAT OUR FIRST GUESTS WOULD BE THAT RENOWNED SUPER SQUAD FROM NORTH OF THE BORDER, THE GREATEST CANADIAN IMPORT SINCE LORNE GREENE, ALPHA FLIGHT!!

GREETINGS, GROUP! THANKS SO MUCH FOR AGREEING TO SPEND A LITTLE TIME WITH US!

THANK YOU, FRED!! SPEAKING FOR THE REST OF ALPHA AND BETA FLIGHT HERE, I MUST SAY THIS IS QUITE A THRILL! I DON'T WANT TO SAY THAT, BUT YOUR PRODUCER SAID I MUST...

HA HA! SAY, YOUR RANKS HAVE CHANGED CONSIDERABLY. DO YOUR JOSES ALWAYS HAVE THIS EFFECT ON PEOPLE...

NO, FRED. SOME OF US ARE LUCKIER THAN YOU.

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW THE STORY, WHY DON'T WE CAN THE CHATTER AND GO TO THE CLIP?

FINE BY ME. JIM! LET'S SEE THAT CLIP....

Stan Lee PRESENTS

"WHEN TITANS PLUG!"

THE
FRED
HEMBECK
Show

IS
BROUGHT
TO
YOU
BY:

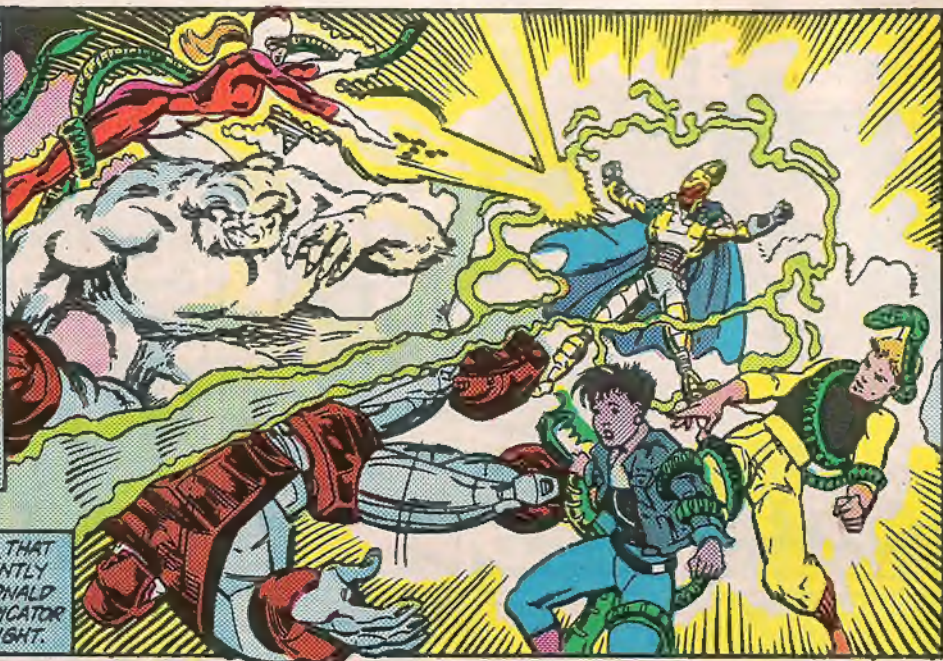
YOUR HOST,
WRITER,
CINEMATOGRAPHER
AND TRANSCRIBER:
F. HEMBECK

COLORIZATION: GREG WRIGHT
PRODUCER/ DIRECTOR: JIM SALICRUP
NETWORK CHAIRMAN: JIM SHOOTER

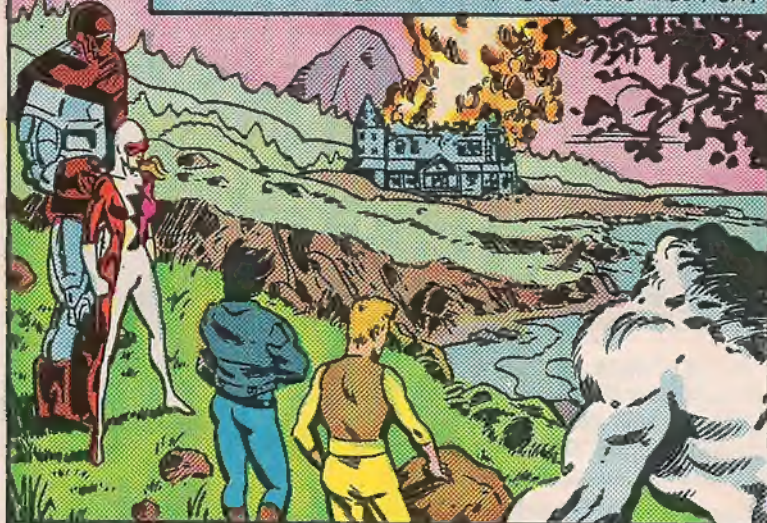
Alpha Flight™

FACES THEIR DEADLIEST OF FOES, BEDLAM! EVEN THE COMBINED STRENGTH OF VINDICATOR, BOX/MR. JEFFRIES, AND SASQUATCH (WITH A HELPING HAND FROM BETA FLIGHT, ALPHA'S YOUNGEST MEMBERS) MAY NOT BE ENOUGH TO DEFEAT BEDLAM. THIS NEW AND STRONGER TEAM OF ALPHANS SEEMS POWERLESS AGAINST IT.

AND THE IRONY OF IT ALL IS THAT THIS CREATURE IS APPARENTLY THE WORK OF JAMES MACDONALD HUDSON, THE ORIGINAL VINDICATOR AND FOUNDER OF ALPHA FLIGHT.



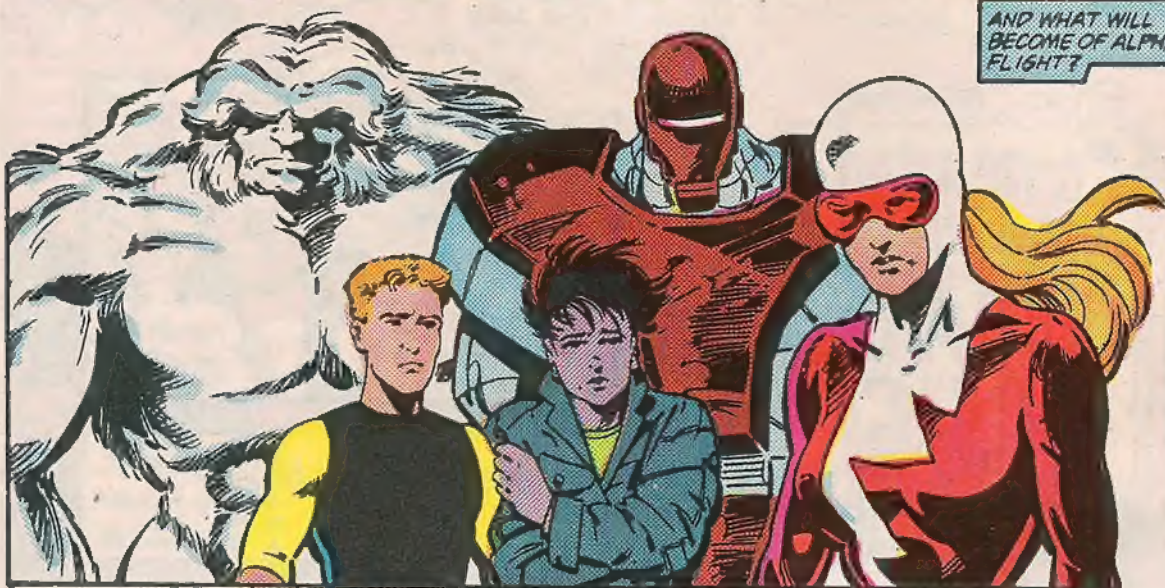
THEY WILL LOSE MORE THAN THEY EVER BARGAINED FOR.



I THOUGHT I WAS UNWORTHY OF REPLACING SUCH A GREAT LEADER AS YOU, MAC. THE MAN I LOVED COULD NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CREATING THIS KIND OF EVIL... COULD HE?

WHAT HAPPENED MAC, WHAT IN GOD'S NAME HAPPENED?

AND WHAT WILL BECOME OF ALPHA FLIGHT?





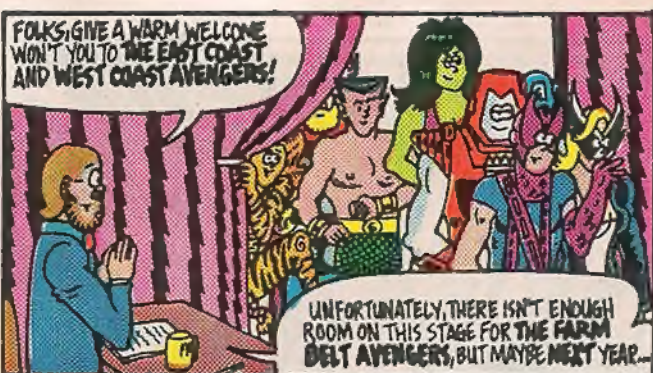
INTERESTING, VERY INTERESTING... I GUESS THEIR MESSAGE IS "DON'T LOSE SIGHT OF ALPHA FLIGHT!"... RIGHT?

RIGHT!



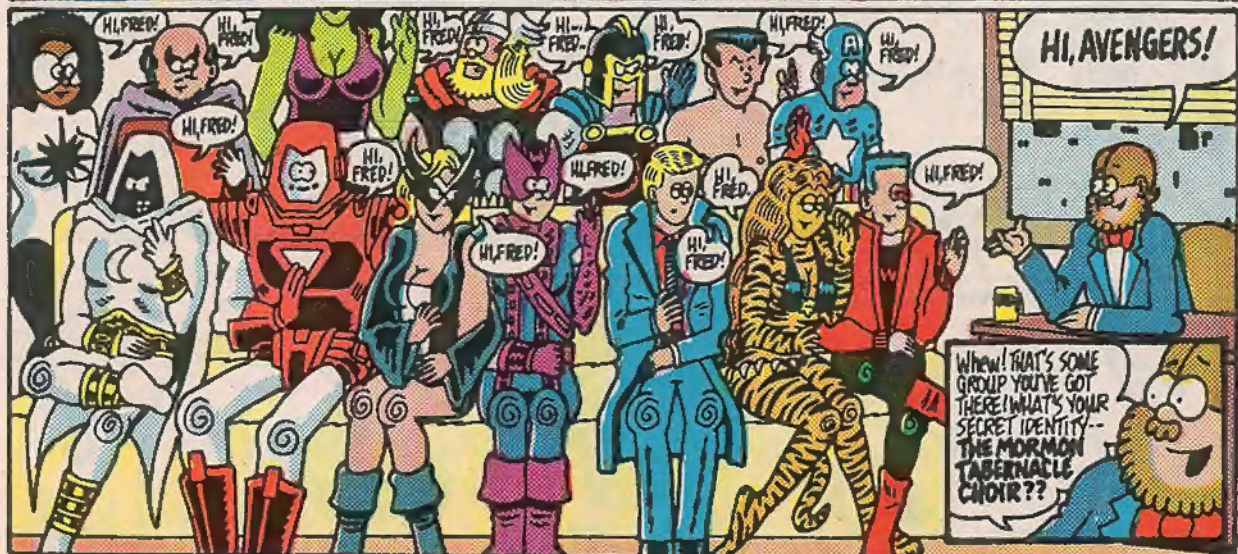
WELL, MOVING RIGHT ALONG, I SEE IT'S TIME TO BRING OUT OUR NEXT GUESTS--

--OR SHOULD I SAY, "MULTITUDE OF GUESTS"??



FOLKS, GIVE A WARM WELCOME WON'T YOU TO THE EAST COAST AND WEST COAST AVENGERS!

UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ISN'T ENOUGH ROOM ON THIS STAGE FOR THE FARM BILT AVENGERS, BUT MAYBE NEXT YEAR...



HI, AVENGERS!

WHEN! THAT'S SOME GROUP YOU'VE GOT THERE! WHAT'S YOUR SECRET IDENTITY-- THE MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR??



WONDER MAN, I HEAR WE'RE PARTICULARLY LUCKY TO HAVE YOU ON TONIGHT. WHY DON'T YOU TELL THE FOLKS ABOUT IT?

THAT'S TRUE, FRED.

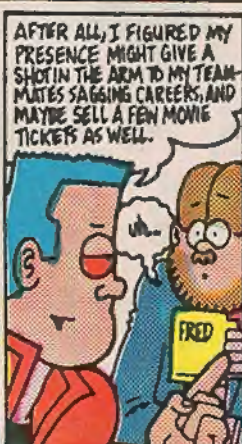
Y'SEE, I WAS ORIGINALLY BOOKED TO APPEAR ON THE LETTERMAN SHOW TONIGHT TO DISCUSS MY NEW SIMON WILLIAMS FILM, ARKON II.



...BUT INSTEAD MY LOYALTY TO THE TEAM FORCED ME TO SHOW UP HERE INSTEAD.



AND WE'RE SURE GLAD YOU DID, AREN'T WE FOLKS?



AFTER ALL, I FIGURED MY PRESENCE MIGHT GIVE A SHOT IN THE ARM TO MY TEAM-MATES SAGGING CAREERS, AND MAYBE SELL A FEW MOVIE TICKETS AS WELL.



THE ARRANGEMENTS AREN'T FINALIZED YET, FOLKS, BUT I'M HOPING THAT WHEN THE MOVIE DOES COME OUT, THE AVENGERS WILL INSTALL A TOLL FREE NUMBER THAT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO CALL AND FIND OUT WHEN AND WHERE THE FILM IS PLAYING IN YOUR AREA.



IT'S A GREAT FILM FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY, SO WHY DON'T--

WONDER MAN?

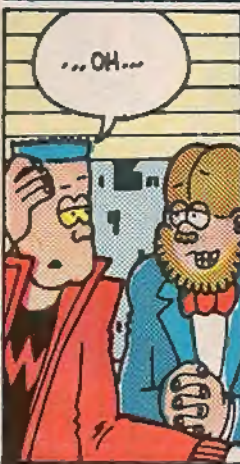
EXCUSE ME, BUT IT'S TIME FOR THE CLIP.



OH, OKAY, WELL, IN THIS SCENE, I'M BATTLING TRE-MENDOUS ODDS TO SAVE THE LIFE OF THE BEAUTIF--

WONDER MAN--

NOT YOUR CLIP-- THE AVENGERS' CLIP.



... OH ...



WELL, COME ON-- LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH--



ROLL 'EM, JIM!

... GIM?IG...

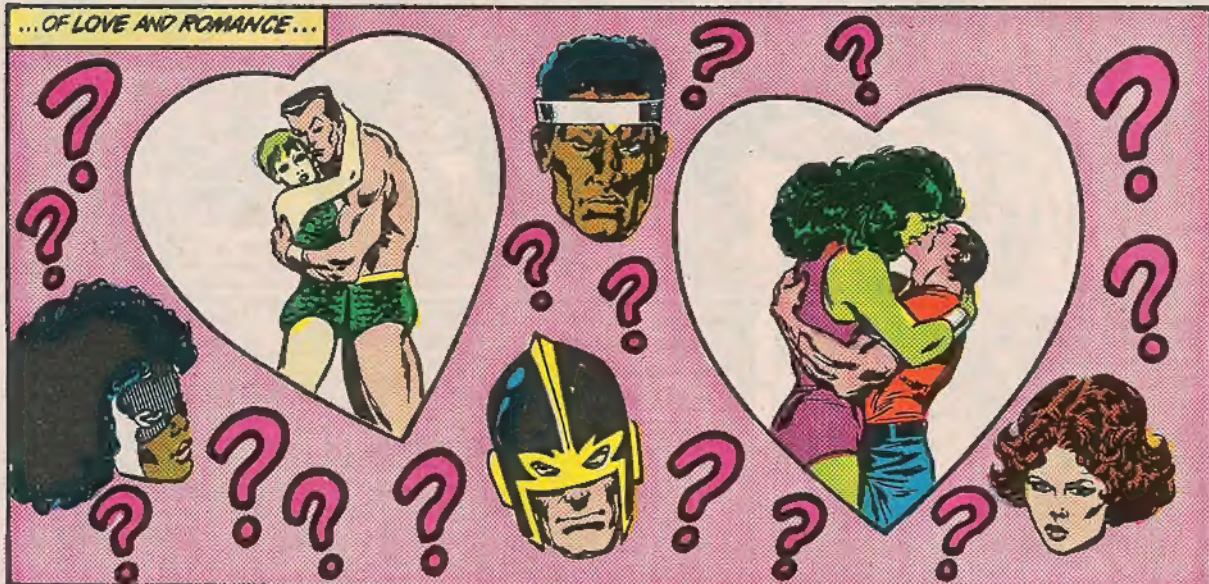
IT'S A STORY OF RAGE AND POWER...



...OF LIFE AND DEATH...



...OF LOVE AND ROMANCE...



...OF TREACHERY AND DECEIT!



IT'S THE NEVER-ENDING STORY OF EARTH'S
MIGHTIEST HEROES

THE AVENGERS®

SCREENPLAY BY ROGER STERN

CINEMATOGRAPHY BY JOHN BUSCEMA &
TOM PALMER

A STAN LEE PRESENTATION

NOW PLAYING AT A COMICS STORE
NEAR YOU!

NOW THAT THE "LOST IN SPACE-TIME" EPIC IS, UH, HISTORY, THE WHACKOS ARE STRONGER THAN EVER!



DR. PYM HAS REGAINED HIS PLACE AMONG EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES---

--AND THE MYSTERIOUS MOON KNIGHT, WHO'S RUMORED TO BE NOT QUITE SANE, HAS ABANDONED HIS SOLO CAREER TO BECOME THE LATEST RECRUIT!



AND DON'T THINK THEY DON'T NEED THE POWER, BECAUSE IN THE COMING YEAR THEY'LL FACE NOT ONE, BUT TWO, ZODIACS!



ULTRON WILL WALK AMONG THEM ONCE MORE--



--BUT WHICH ULTRON, AND WHETHER AS VILLAIN OR HERO, IS A MYSTERY YET UNPLUMBED!

THEN THERE'S THE UNKNOWN FORCE STALKING MOCKING-BIRD--



--MASTER PANDEMONIUM'S QUEST FOR THE SECOND SOUL-SHARD--

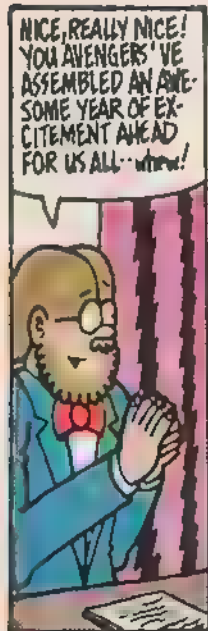
--THE NEW IRON MAN--

--THE SHROUD--

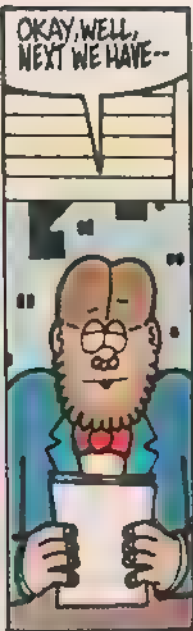
--AND THE ARRIVAL OF THE VISION AND THE SCARLET WITCH!



FOR STARTERS...!



NICE, REALLY NICE!
YOU AVENGERS! I'VE
ASSEMBLED AN AWE-
SOME YEAR OF EX-
CITEMENT AHEAD
FOR US ALL... uh...!



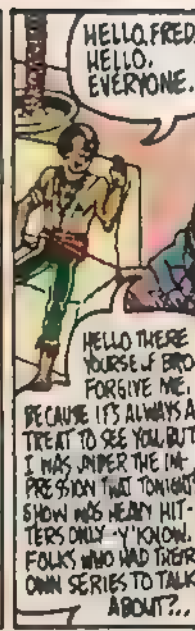
OKAY, WELL,
NEXT WE HAVE--



WAIT A SECOND--
THIS CAN'T BE
RIGHT!!



BUT IT'S LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN--
BROTHER
VOODOO!!



HELLO, FRED,
HELLO,
EVERYONE.

HELLO THERE
YOURSELF BRO-
FORGIVE ME,
BECAUSE IT'S ALWAYS A
TREAT TO SEE YOU, BUT
I WAS UNDER THE IM-
PRESSION THAT TONIGHT'S
SHOW WAS HEAVY HIT-
TERS ONLY -Y'KNOW-
FOLKS WHO HAD THEIR
OWN SERIES TO TALK
ABOUT?..



UNLESS?..

uh uh.



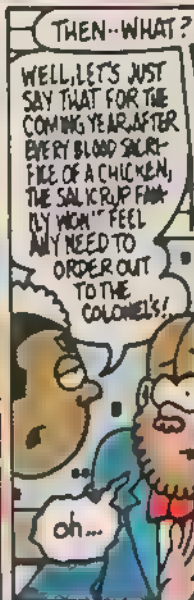
THEN HOW'D
YOU GET ON
THE SHOW?

I BRIBED
THE
PRODUCER.



WHAT?!? YOU
PAID JIM SALICRUP
MONEY TO APPEAR
ON TONIGHT'S SHOW?

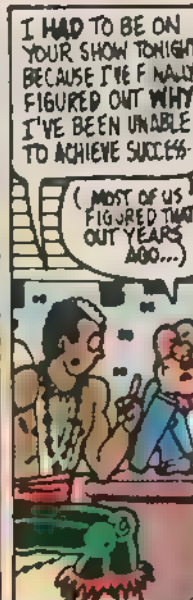
WELL,
NOT
EXACTLY.



THEN--WHAT?

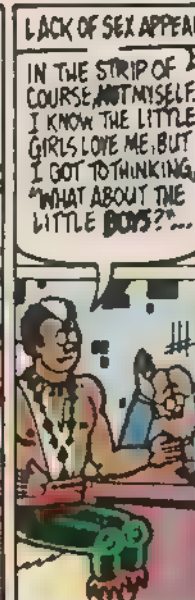
WELL, LET'S JUST
SAY THAT FOR THE
COMING YEAR AFTER
EVERY BLOOD SACRI-
FICE OF A CHICKEN,
THE SALICRUP FAM-
ILY WON'T FEEL
ANY NEED TO
ORDER OUT
TO THE
COLONELS!

oh...



I HAD TO BE ON
YOUR SHOW TONIGHT
BECAUSE I'VE FINALLY
FIGURED OUT WHY
I'VE BEEN UNABLE
TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS--

(MOST OF US
FIGURED THAT
OUT YEARS
AGO...)



LACK OF SEX APPEAL!

IN THE STRIP OF
COURSE, NOT MYSELF.
I KNOW THE LITTLE
GIRLS LOVE ME, BUT
I GOT TO THINKING,
"WHAT ABOUT THE
LITTLE BOYS?..."



AS MY CLIP WILL DE-
MONSTRATE TO YOU,
YOUR AUDIENCE, AND
MOST IMPORTANTLY,
TO MARVEL COMICS,
MY SOLUTION TO
THE PROBLEM IS
INGENIOUS.

YOU--
BROUGHT A CLIP??



uh huh, BUT THAT'S
NOT ALL I BROUGHT!
PLEASE ALLOW ME
TO INTRODUCE--



--SISTER
VOODOO!!



S-SHE'S WEARING
AN OUTFIT JUST
LIKE YOURS!

AH,
YOU
NOTICED.



BUT--BUT SOME-
HOW IT LOOKS
DIFFERENT

AH,
YOU
NOTICED...



I DON'T UNDER-
STAND?.. WHO?
HOW?

IT'S ALL
ON THE
CLIP.



JIM, IF YOU
PLEASE?..

(AND IF
YOU'RE HUNGRY?)

THOUGH BORN IN HAITI, BROTHERS JERICO AND DANIEL DRUMM SPENT THEIR FORMATIVE YEARS APART, JERICO SPENDING 12 YEARS ABROAD IN AMERICA, BECOMING A NOTED PSYCHOLOGIST DURING THAT TIME...



... AS DANIEL STAYED IN HIS HOMETOWN, BECOMING THE LOCAL HOUSAN (VOODOO PRIEST) IN THAT PERIOD.



TRAGEDY RELIQUED THE BROTHERS AS AN ENEMY OF DANIEL'S DELIVERED A FATAL BLOW...



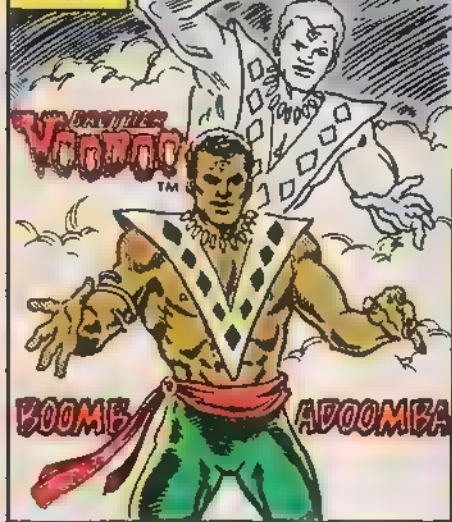
SWEARING TO AVENGE HIS BROTHER, JERICO STUDIED AT THE FEET OF THE AGED PAPA JAMBO, BECOMING AN EVEN GREATER HOUSAN THAN DANIEL...



TO ENSURE JERICO'S POWER, PAPA JAMBO SUMMONED THE SPIRIT GODS OF VODOO, THE LOA, AND PERFORMED A RITE THAT WOULD JOIN THE SPIRIT OF THE SLAIN DANIEL WITH THAT OF HIS BROTHER FOREVERMORE...



TWO MEN NAMED--



BUT NOW, THEIR MISSION OF JUSTICE LONG SINCE ACCOMPLISHED, THESE CLOSEST OF BROTHERS ARE IN FOR THE BIGGEST SURPRISE OF THEIR LIFE (OR AFTERLIFE) AS THEY MEET THE SIBLING THEY NEVER KNEW THEY HAD--



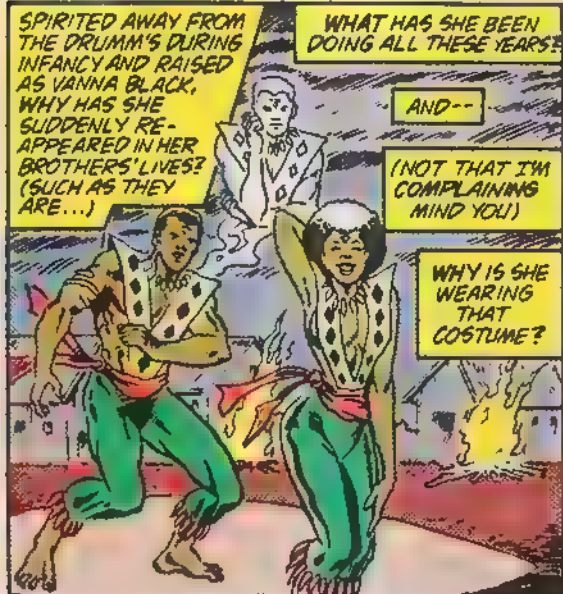
SPIRITED AWAY FROM THE DRUMM'S DURING INFANCY AND RAISED AS VANNA BLACK, WHY HAS SHE SUDDENLY RE-APPEARED IN HER BROTHERS' LIVES? (SUCH AS THEY ARE...)

WHAT HAS SHE BEEN DOING ALL THESE YEARS?

AND--

(NOT THAT I'M COMPLAINING MIND YOU)

WHY IS SHE WEARING THAT COSTUME?



ALL THESE QUESTIONS AND MORE--ANSWERABLE IF ONLY ENOUGH OF YOU ASK!

SEE BROTHER VODOO PERFORM HIS SPELLS!



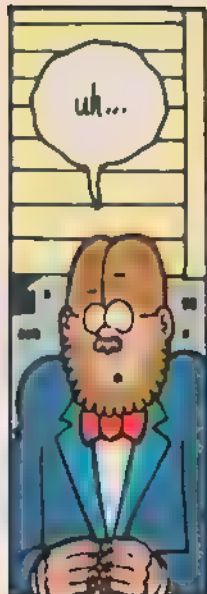
SEE SISTER VODOO DISPLAY HER CHARMS!

AND THRILL AS THE ENTIRE VODOO FAMILY LET LOOSE THEIR BATTLE CRY--

STOP! STOP IN THE NAME OF THE LOA!

BROTHER VODOO COMICS--HOW COULD YOU NOT WANT EM?





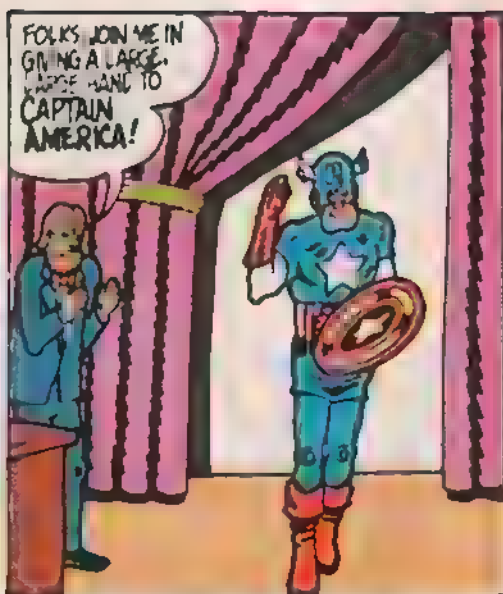
uh...



THANKS FOR TAKING THE TIME OUT OF YOUR --ahem--BUSY SCHEDULE TO SHOW US THAT BROTHER 100000 AND GOOD LUCK--YOU'LL NEED IT!



AND NOW FOLKS, TRULY GOING FROM THE RIDICULOUS TO THE SUBLIME, IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE INDEED TO INTRODUCE YOU TO A MAN WHO IS TO ME THE PERFECT LIVING EMBODIMENT OF ALL THAT THIS GREAT COUNTRY OF OURS STANDS FOR--



FOLKS JOIN ME IN GIVING A LARGE, LARGE HAND TO CAPTAIN AMERICA!



THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME HERE FRED.

NO THANKS NECESSARY --IT'S MY PRIVILEGE TO HAVE YOU HERE CAP!

MY NAME IS YOU CAP?

CERTAINLY



YOU KNOW 'CAP, I WENT AROUND TO FOLLOW YOUR EXPLOITS DURING WORLD WAR II BUT I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE HAD A FRONT ROW SEAT FOR YOUR RETURN FROM SUSPENDED ANIMATION A FEW YEARS BACK AND I GOTTA TELL YOU THE TRUTH--YOU BECAME MY FAVORITE COMIC ADVENTURER INSTANTLY NO IF'S, AND'S, OR BUT'S!



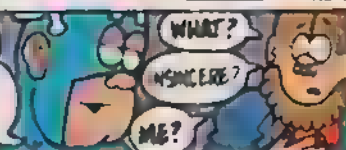
YOUR ACTIONS OVER THE SUBSEQUENT YEARS HAVE JUST PROVEN HOW TRUE MY ORIGINAL INTENTIONS WERE CAPTAIN AMERICA, I RESPECT AND ADMIRE YOU MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE AND THE NEW UNIVERSE FOR THAT MATTER, AND PROBABLY MORE THAN ANYONE IN THE ACTUAL UNIVERSE AS WELL! YOU ARE JUST IT!!



I'VE PATTERNED MY LIFE AFTER YOU CAPTAIN AMERICA YOUR VALUES ARE MY VALUES YOUR CONCERNS ARE MY CONCERNS YOUR CAREER IS MY CAREER (ARTIST NOT THAT'S NOT ADVENTURING) THAT'S WHY I'M SO PLEASED TO HAVE YOU HERE TONIGHT TO THANK YOU CAPTAIN AMERICA-- THANK YOU FOR BEING THE PERSON YOU ARE!



I'M A BIT OVER THE TOP BUT I DO APPRECIATE YOUR COMPLIMENTS--ESPECIALLY IF THEY'RE NOT ALL EMPTY SHOW BIZ BLATHER...



WELL, MAYBE SOME TIMES BUT NEVER TO YOU CAP! AND JUST TO SHOW YOU I'M NOT KIDDING-- MITCH, ROCCO--WHEEL'ER IN!



LOOK FAMILIAR?

WHY IT'S A LARGE CHUNK OF ICE!?

YUP JUST LIKE THE ONE YOU WERE FROZEN IN.



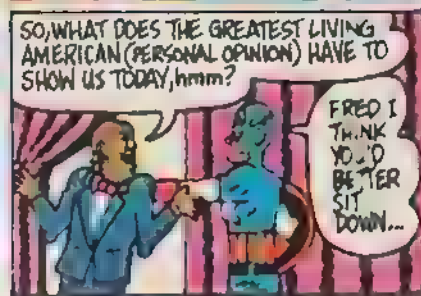
BUT--I DON'T UNDERSTAND

DON'T YOU SEE? IF I EVER SAY GET REAL SICK OR THE RAT MIES ON THIS SHOW SLIP DOWN THE FAR I JUST POP IN THERE FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS UNTIL IT'S SAFE TO COME OUT AGAIN!



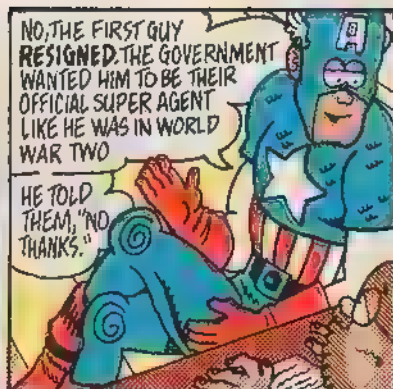
NOW DO YOU BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY YOU'RE MY ROLE MODEL?

I BELIEVE YOU, I BELIEVE YOU...



SO, WHAT DOES THE GREATEST LIVING AMERICAN (PERSONAL OPINION) HAVE TO SHOW US TODAY, hmmm?

FRED I THINK YOU'D BETTER SIT DOWN...



CAPTAIN AMERICA

"SO THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON SUPERHUMAN ACTIVITIES CHOSE ME FOR THE JOB. AND LET ME TELL YOU, FRED, THEY'RE KEEPING ME PRETTY BUSY DEFENDING THIS GREAT NATION OF OURS."

"WITH MY PARTNER BUCKY AT MY SIDE, WE'VE BEEN SLATED TO GO UP AGAINST SUCH THREATS TO NATIONAL SECURITY AS--"

"--THE WATCHDOGS..."

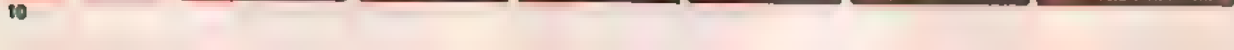
"PROFESSOR POWER..."

"BATROC THE LEAPER..."

"THE NEW SUPER-PATRIOT..."

"THE SERPENT SOCIETY..."

"OH, YES, THERE'S ALSO THIS JOKER CALLING HIMSELF THE CAPTAIN I WANT TO GET A LINE ON..."



DAREDEVIL

HANGS OUT IN HELL'S KITCHEN. IT'S THE NEW YORK NEIGHBORHOOD HE'S SWORN TO PROTECT.

DAREDEVIL SPENDS HIS DAYS JUST LIKE YOU OR I, MEETING WITH DEAR OLD FRIENDS SUCH AS THE BLACK WIDOW...

DAREDEVIL: I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET CROCK...

HOW DO YOU DO?

HSSRARGG!

DAREDEVIL IS A COMPASSIONATE MAN, ALWAYS TRYING TO SAVE PEOPLE'S LIVES LIKE THE CHARMING BUSHWACKER HERE.

DAREDEVIL LOVES MAKING NEW FRIENDS LIKE WOLVERINE...

EAT HOT BULLETS, HORN-HEAD!

SNKT!

KWNGCH!

DAREDEVIL IS ALSO MATT MURDOCK, WHO RUNS A FREE LEGAL-ADVICE CLINIC. SOMETIMES HIS TROUBLE-SHOOTING GETS PEOPLE MAD, LIKE THIS GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, BULLET.

CLOSE DOWN THIS CLINIC, MURDOCK--

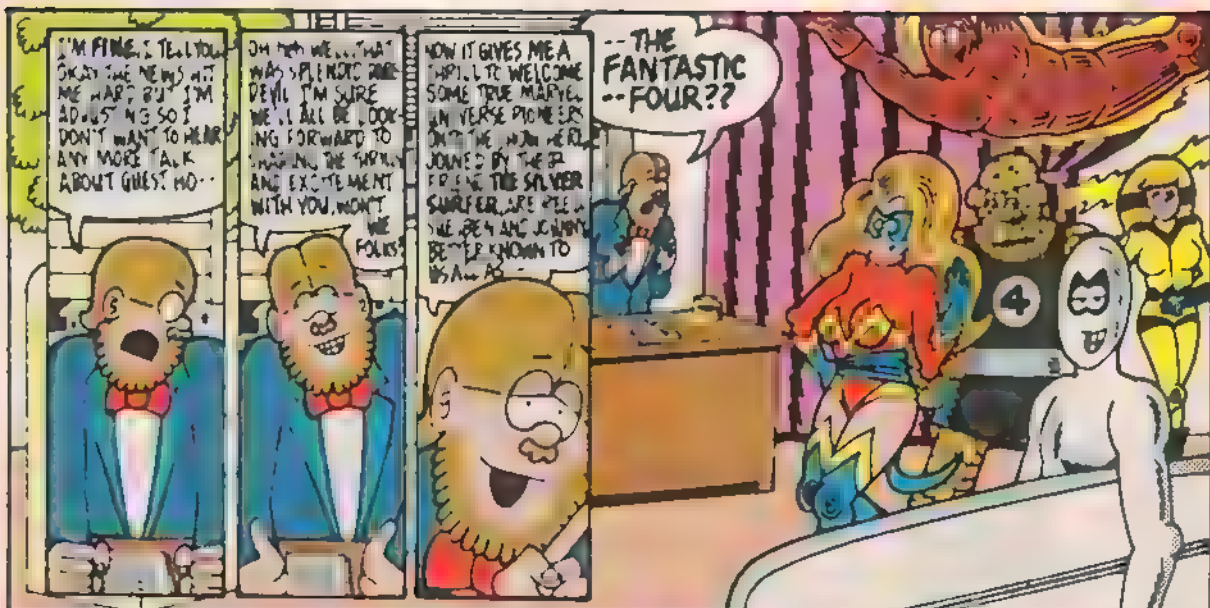
ALL THIS IS JUST AN ORDINARY DAY IN THE UP-COMING LIFE OF DAREDEVIL.

BUT, HE'S A COOL CAT, HE ALWAYS LANDS ON HIS FEET.

OUCH!

--OR I'LL BLAST IT DOWN TO NOTHING!

YES, HE'LL STAY THE PROTECTOR OF HELL'S KITCHEN. QUESTION IS, CAN HE TAKE THE HEAT?



W WHERE'S REED AND SUE? DON'T TELL ME THEY'VE BEEN GUP--
FIRE TOO??

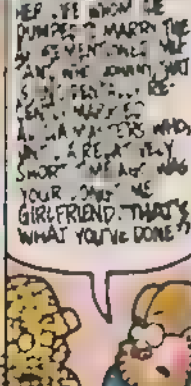
DON'T WORRY, PAUL. THE NEW YORK TIMES STRIKE BEGAN AND THE MAGAZINE JUST FINISHED THEN NEED TO TAKE A BREAK AND SPEND SOME TIME KAYAKING THE RIVER. AFTER ALL, FRANKLIN AIN'T GONNA BE A KID FOREVER--PROBABLY

THE FFS IN GOOD HANDS THOUGH, CUZ REED PUT ME IN CHARGE. I HIRED TWO REPLACEMENTS AND BIG BRAIN EVEN LET ME MAKE MY OWN CHOICES

AND YOU CHOSE CRYSTAL AND THE NEW MRS. MARVEL?
GLAD TO SEE YOUR EYE BALLS WORK

LET ME SEE IF I UNDERSTAND. YOU RECRUITED CRISTAL HERE FROM A PHOTOGRAPH MAGAZINE AND SUCKS LIES MAKE NO SENSE. YOU'VE CHOSEN ERIC TO BE YOUR SPOUSE. THE FIRST BEST OF HIS HELP. WE KNOW HE DUMPED TO MARRY THE GIRL HE MENTIONED. BUT HE'S MARRIED NOW. A GREAT LAY SHORT. WE'VE GOT YOUR GIRLFRIEND. THAT'S WHAT YOU'VE DONE?

WE...IT HAD TO BE CRYSTAL DORIS EVANS WASN'T AVAILABLE!



AND YOU'VE SIGNED UP THE NEW MRS. MARVEL. YOU'VE PREVIOUSLY DISCOVERED IS A RUMOR FOR THE WOMAN YOU DATED WHILE ON THE BEYONDERS WORLD?

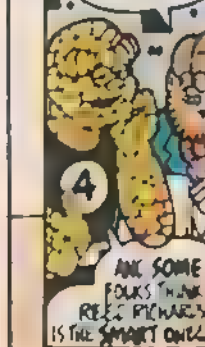
SO HOW DOES ALL THIS MAKE YOU FEEL, JOHNNY?

HO? UNDER THE COLLAR!

UH HUH WELL SURFER, IT SAYS HERE THAT YOU'LL SOON BE MEETING UP WITH THE ELDERS OF THE UNIVERSE?

THAT'S RIGHT, ERIC IN FACT TO-MORROW AFTERNOON I'M HAVING TEA WITH MAY PARKER!

BER-UMP-BUMPI!! WELL, THAT'S A CUE FOR A GUP IF I EVER HEARD ONE--

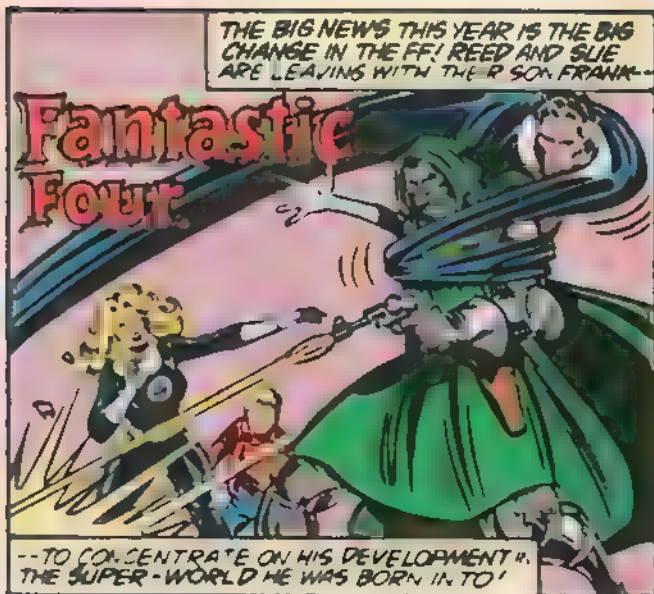


THE SILVER SURFER



AND THIS IS ONLY
WHAT'S GOING ON
IN ONE CORNER OF
THE COSMOS ---
BECAUSE REMEMBER..

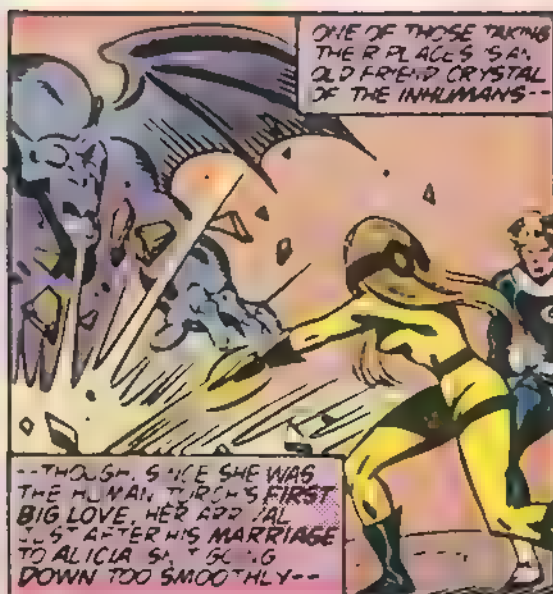
... SPACE IS INFINITE...!



THE BIG NEWS THIS YEAR IS THE BIG CHANGE IN THE FF! REED AND SUE ARE LEAVING WITH THEIR SON FRANK--

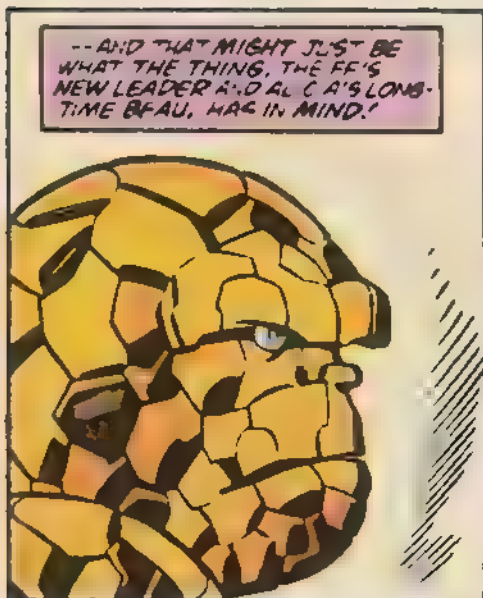
Fantastic Four

--TO CONCENTRATE ON HIS DEVELOPMENT IN THE SUPER-WORLD HE WAS BORN IN TO!

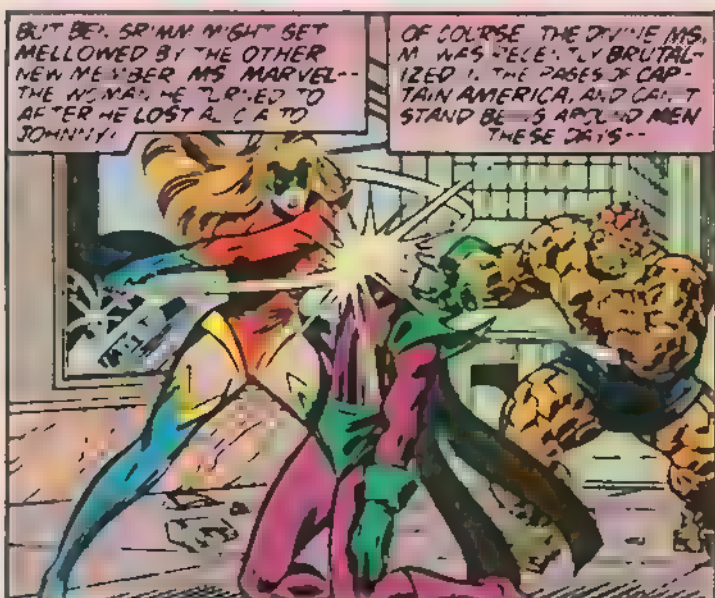


ONE OF THOSE TAKING THE PLACES SAID OLD FRIEND CRYSTAL OF THE INHUMANS--

--THOUGH, SINCE SHE WAS THE HUMAN TORCH'S FIRST BIG LOVE, HER ADD'AL JUST AFTER HIS MARRIAGE TO ALICIA SAID SCING DOWN TOO SMOOTHLY--

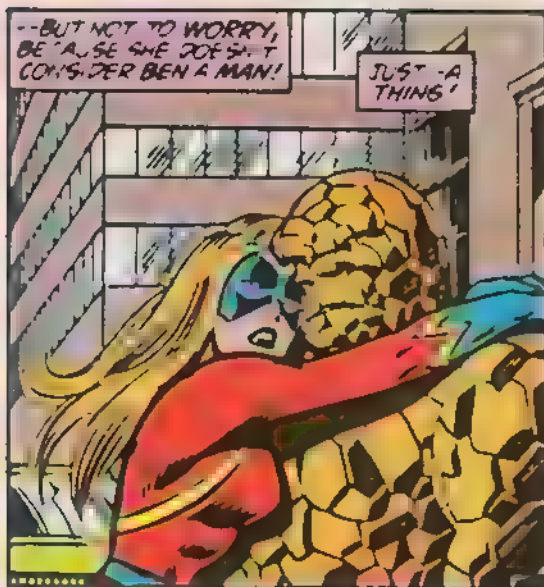


--AND THAT MIGHT JUST BE WHAT THE THING, THE FF'S NEW LEADER AND ALCIA'S LONG-TIME BEAU, HAS IN MIND!



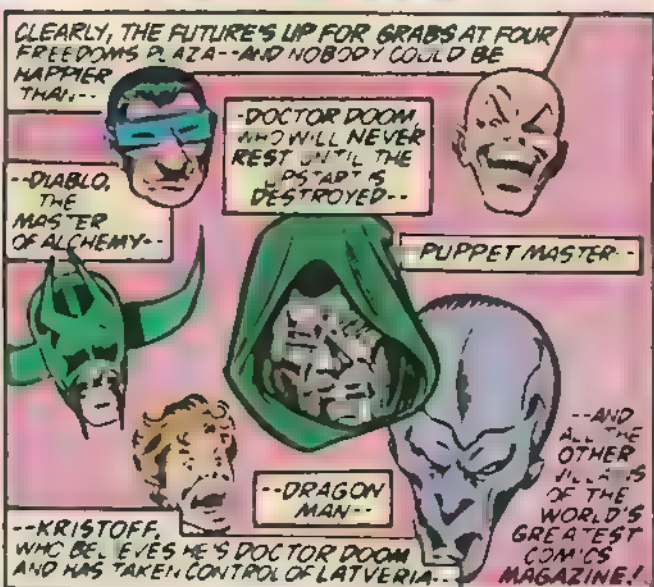
BUT BEN, S'RY, MIGHT GET MELLOWED BY THE OTHER NEW MEMBER MS. MARVEL-- THE WOMAN HE TRIED TO AFTER HE LOST ALCIA TO JOHN IV.

OF COURSE THE DIVINE MS. M. WAS RECENTLY BRUTALIZED IN THE PAGES OF CAPTAIN AMERICA, AND CAN'T STAND BEING AROUND MEN THESE DAYS--



--BUT NOT TO WORRY, BE'CAUSE SHE DOESN'T CONSIDER BEN A MAN!

JUST A THING!



CLEARLY, THE FUTURE'S UP FOR GRABS AT FOUR FREEDOMS PLAZA--AND NOBODY COULD BE HAPPIER THAN--

DOCTOR DOOM WHO WILL NEVER REST UNTIL THE U.S.A. IS DESTROYED--

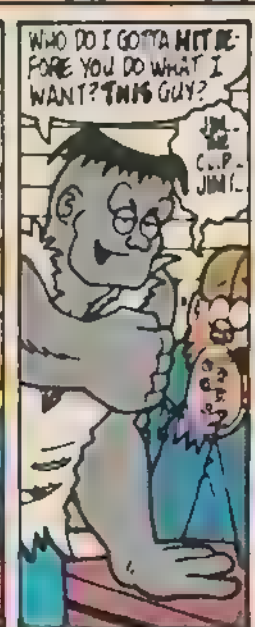
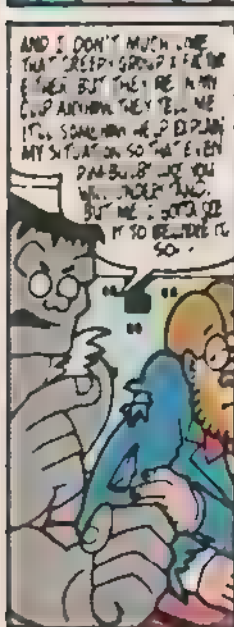
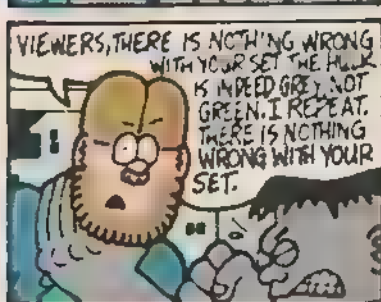
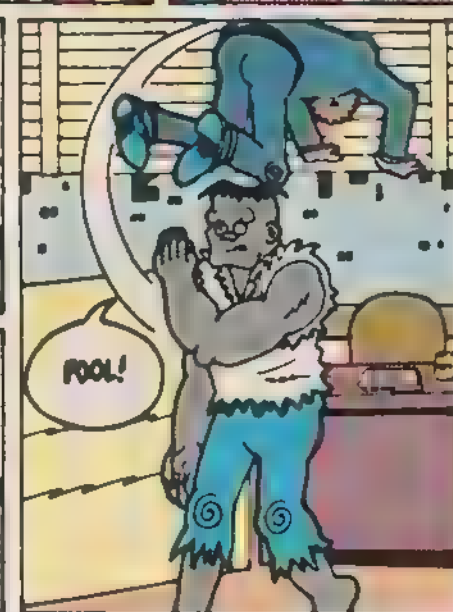
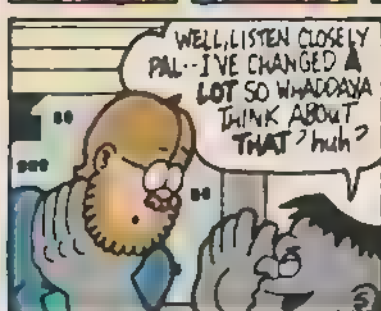
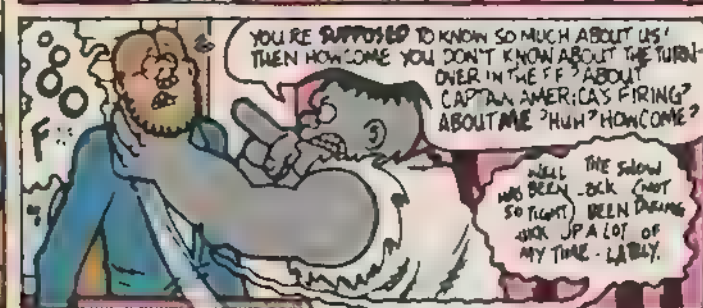
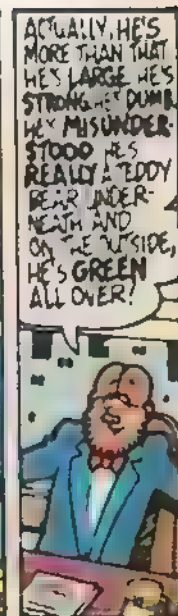
--DIABLO, THE MASTER OF ALCHEMY--

PUPPET MASTER--

--DRAGON MAN--

--KRISTOFF, WHO BE, EYES HE'S DOCTOR DOOM AND HAS TAKEN CONTROL OF LATVERIA--

--AND ALL THE OTHER VILLAINS OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMICS MAGAZINE!



THE INCREDIBLE HULK

SO YA HELPED SHIELD CAPTURE ME AND BRING ME HERE TO GAMMA BASE. THAT WAS REAL SMART.

YA DOES. THINK SHIELD'LL BE GRATEFUL?

THINK AGAIN. YOU WERE A MEANS TO AN END. THEY WANT ME AND BANNER OUT OF THE WAY.

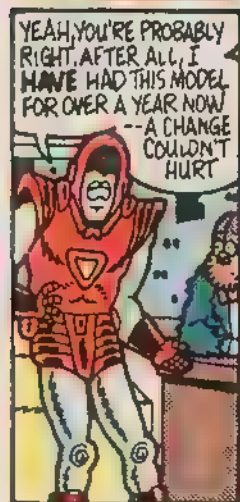
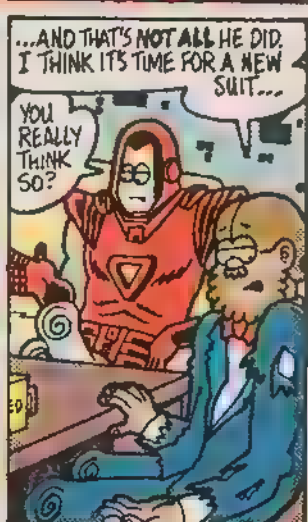
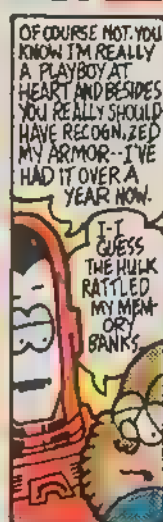
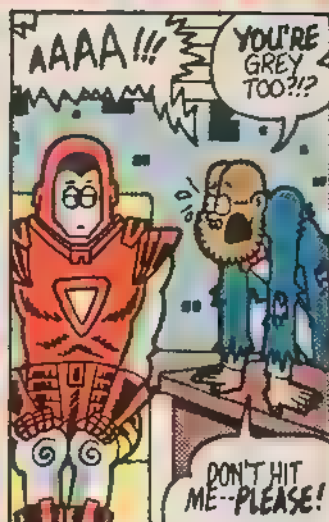
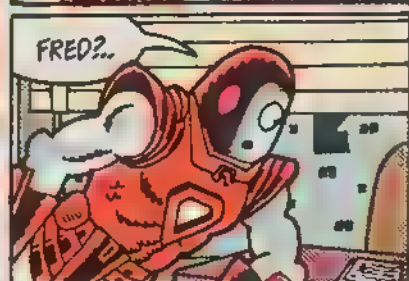
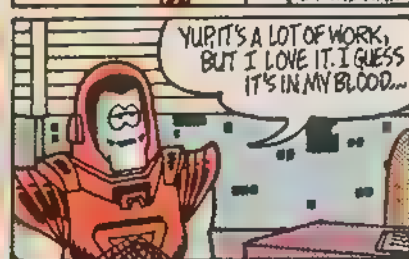
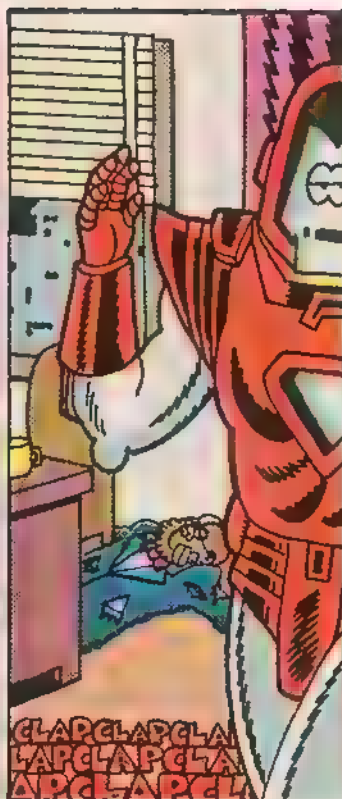
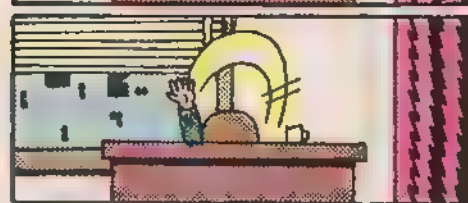
HOW CAN WE BELIEVE THAT?

BELIEVE IT. SHIELD'S TOTALLY CORRUPT. THEY'RE WAITING UNTIL I CHANGE BACK TO BANNER AT SUN-UP, AND THEN THEY'LL KILL ME.

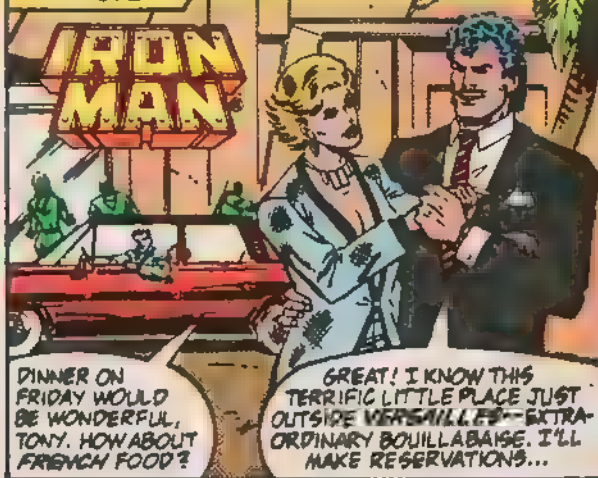
BUT THAT'S INHUMAN! WHY DO YOU THINK THEY'LL DO THAT?

BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT THEY'VE BEEN MAKING MORE GAMMA BOMBS AND THEY WANNA MAKE SURE WE DON'T TELL ANYONE.

BECAUSE I'M TOTALLY CORRUPT. AND THAT'S WHAT I WOULD DO.



ON RODEO DRIVE, ACE PILOT JIM RHODES WATCHES WITH A SMILE AS BUSINESSWOMAN RAE LACOSTE SETTLES WEEKEND PLANS WITH ANTHONY STARK, LITTLE KNOWING THAT HER DATE IS ALSO THE INVINCIBLE...



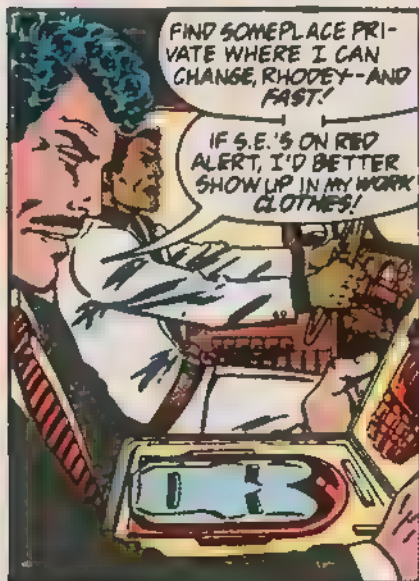
DINNER ON FRIDAY WOULD BE WONDERFUL, TONY. HOW ABOUT FRENCH FOOD?

GREAT! I KNOW THIS TERRIFIC LITTLE PLACE JUST OUTSIDE VERSAILLES--EXTRA-ORDINARY BOUILLABAISE. I'LL MAKE RESERVATIONS...

HEY, CHIEF! EMERGENCY SIGNAL FROM STARK ENTERPRISES!

CODE RED!

SORRY, RAE, GOTTA GO! I'LL CALL YOU!



FIND SOMEPLACE PRIVATE WHERE I CAN CHANGE, RHODEY--AND FAST!

IF S.E.'S ON RED ALERT, I'D BETTER SHOW UP IN MY WORK CLOTHES!

MOMENTS LATER, AT STARK ENTERPRISES HEADQUARTERS NORTH OF LOS ANGELES...

I'VE CHECKED THE COMPUTERS! THIS GUY'S NAME IS FORCE!

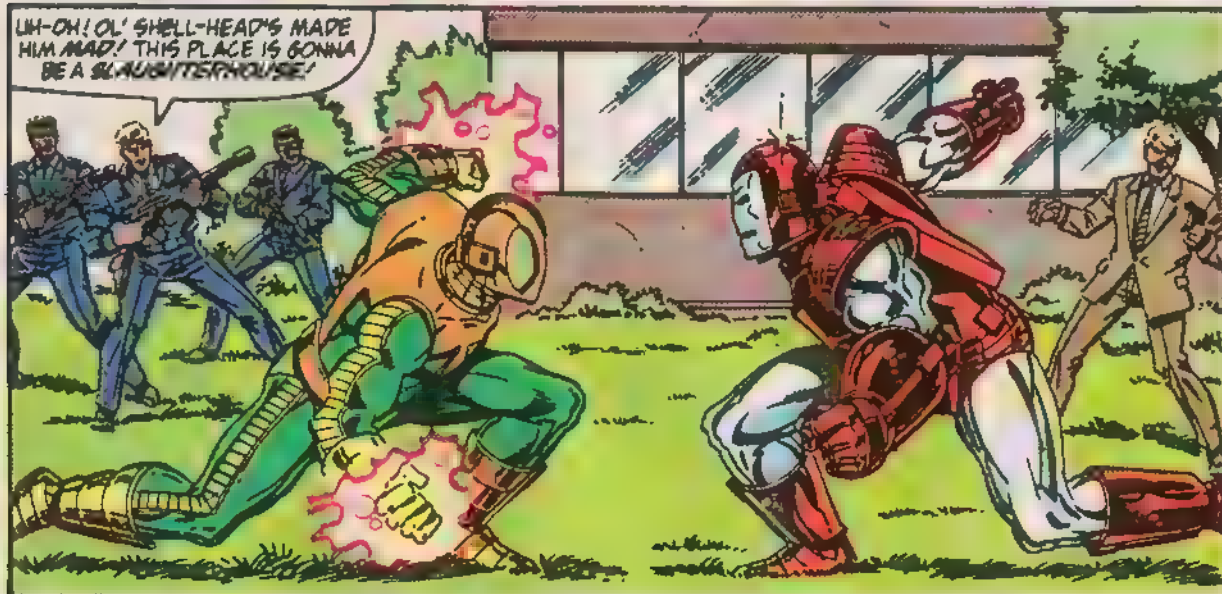
AND NOTHING WE'VE GOT CAN STOP HIM!



THEN I GUESS I'D BETTER DO THE JOB!



UH-OH! OL' SHELL-HEAD'S MADE HIM MAD! THIS PLACE IS GONNA BE A SLAUGHTERHOUSE!



FOLKS, A WARM HAND FOR MY NEXT REALLY BIG GUEST--THEY UP AND CALL HIM THE WATCHER. BUT HIS REAL NAME IS MR. UATU!

SO, WHAT BRINGS THE COSMIC ALLAN FUNT CENTERSTAGE TODAY? DON'T TELL ME THEY'RE BRINGING BACK WHAT IF?...

AFRAID NOT, FRED. NO, I'M HERE REPRESENTING A DIFFERENT PUBLICATION ENTIRELY--**MARVEL SAGA.**

OH, RIGHT! THAT'S THE SERIES THAT CHRONICLES THE HISTORY OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER BY COMBINING REPRINTED HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE VAST MARVEL COMICS LIBRARY WITH AN ILLUMINATING TEXT THAT TIES ALL THAT INFORMATION INTO A COHERENT AND EXCITING WHOLE!

THAT'S THE BOOK.

AND IT'S ONE OF MY FAVORITES, TOO! AS A LONG-TIME READER, SEEING THAT SEMINAL MARVEL MATERIAL IS A REAL NOSTALGIC RUSH, BUT BY THE SKILLFUL COMBINING AND Juxtaposing OF EVENTS, AN ENTIRELY NEW LIFE IS GIVEN TO THE MATERIAL THAT BRINGS A FRESHNESS AND VITALITY THAT'S ENTIRELY ITS OWN.

MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY.

THANK YOU, FRED. GREETINGS, ALL!

AND, OF COURSE, FOR THE NEW READER, IT'S THE ABSOLUTE BEST WAY TO UNDERSTAND THE AWE-SOME MAGNITUDE AND MAGNIFICENCE OF THE MIGHTY MARVEL UNIVERSE!

PLUS, THERE'S NO ADS IN IT!

A MUST BUY.

A MUST BUY, INDEED.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO ADD ABOUT MARVEL SAGA, UATU?...

NO, I THINK I'VE ABOUT SAID IT ALL...

GREAT! THEN WHY DON'T WE SHOW THE FOLKS AT HOME WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT AND RUN THE CLIP?...

...WHILE I FULFILL A FANTASY OF MINE AND WATCH THE WATCHER WATCHING.

oh brother

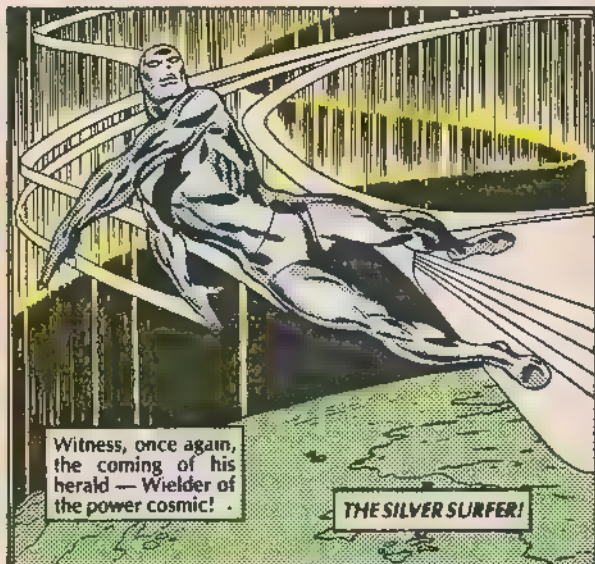
THE MARVEL SAGA

It was a time when mere mortals were given power beyond their wildest dreams—

They were Earth's champions — The best and the brightest.



They were not prepared for the cosmic drama that was soon to unfold.



Witness, once again, the coming of his herald — Wielder of the power cosmic!

THE SILVER SURFER!



Witness, once again, his coming! He who was unlike all creatures in the vastness of the Universe!

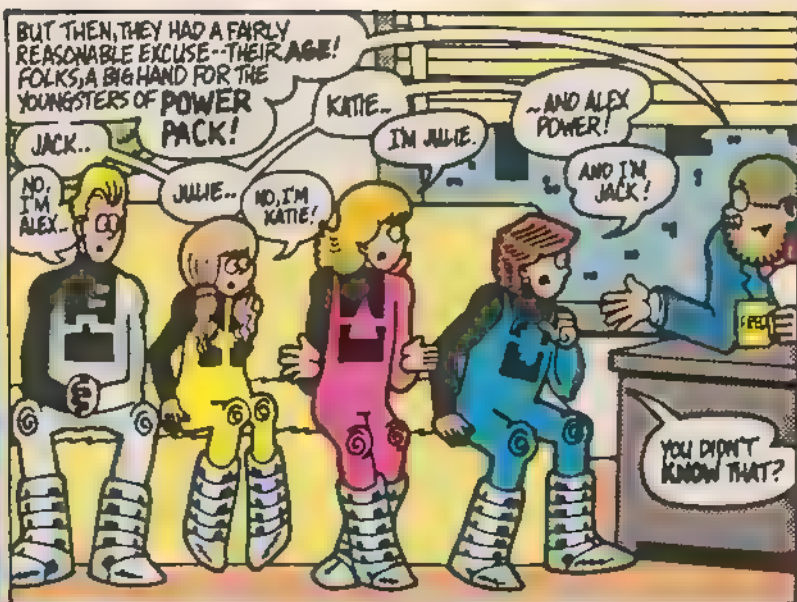
He was present at the birth of the Universe, and he shall be there at its end!

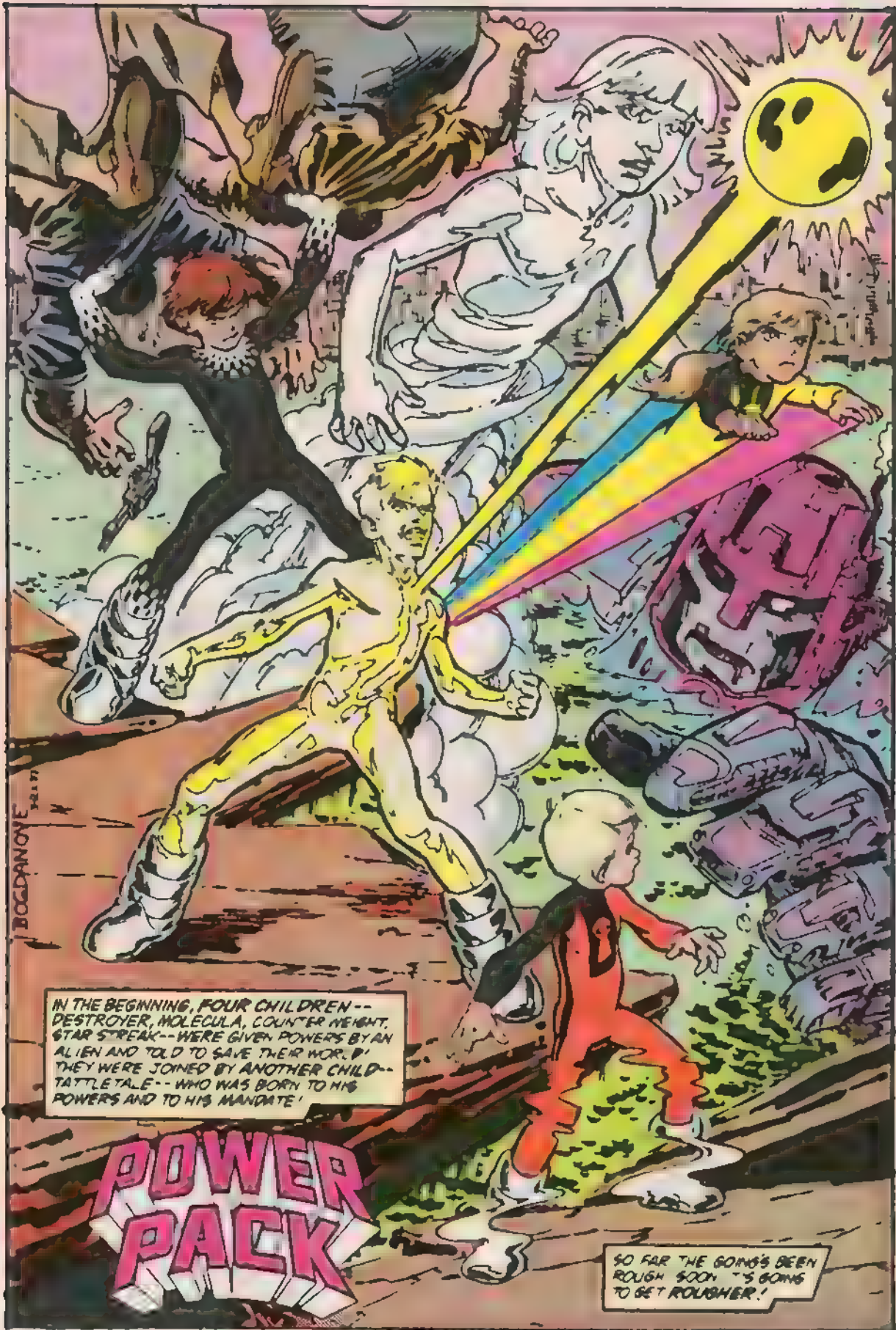
HE IS GALACTUS. RAVAGER OF WORLDS—

—and the MARVEL UNIVERSE would never be the same!

As MARVEL SAGA ends its second year we will explore — along with Earth's mightiest heroes — the infinite wonders of the cosmos! Discover, with them, the mysteries of the MARVEL Universe!

WRITER: ADAM BLAUSTEIN ★ PENCILERS: JACK KIRBY, JOHN BUSCEMA, AND RODNEY RAMOS
★ INKERS: GEORGE KLEIN, JOE SINNOTT, DONALD C. HUDSON, AND RODNEY RAMOS

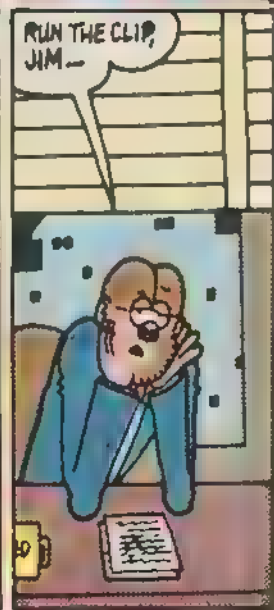
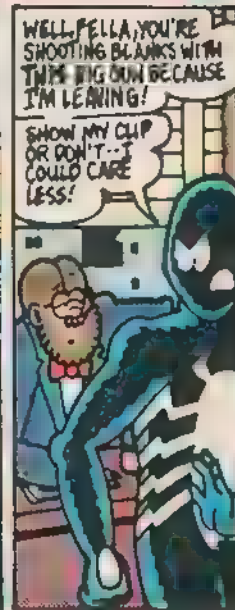
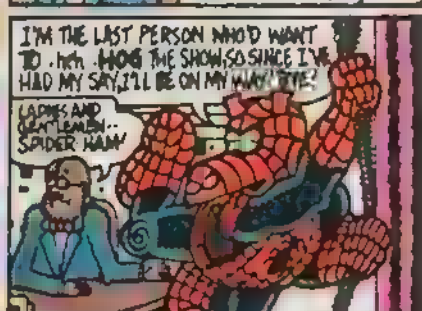
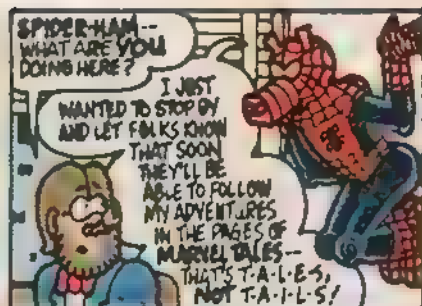
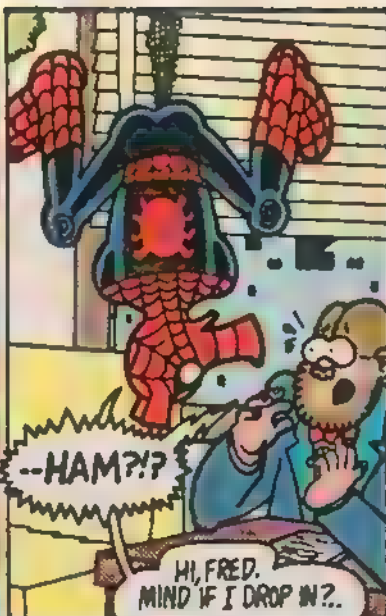
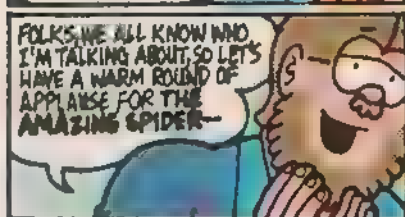
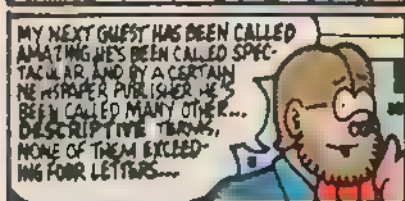
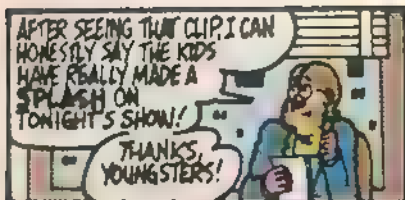




IN THE BEGINNING, FOUR CHILDREN--
DESTROYER, MOLECULA, COUNTER WEIGHT,
STAR STREAK--WERE GIVEN POWERS BY AN
ALIEN AND TOLD TO SAVE THEIR WORLD.
THEY WERE JOINED BY ANOTHER CHILD--
TATTLETALE--WHO WAS BORN TO HIS
POWERS AND TO HIS MANDATE!

POWER PACK

SO FAR THE BOMB'S BEEN
ROUGH SOON IT'S GONNA
GET ROUGHER!





AMAZING AND SPECTACULAR—VERY NICE! OH, AND CONGRATS ON YOUR WEDDINGS, SPIDER-MAN!

LET ME NOW INTRODUCE YOU TO SOME FOLKS WHO RECENTLY TRANSFERRED THEIR ADVENTURES FROM TWO EXCITING BI-MONTHLY BOOKS INTO ONE EXCITING MONTHLY BOOK THAT THEY'RE SHARING. PEOPLE, I GIVE YOU--

--DR. STRANGE AND CLOAK AND DAGGER!

HI, EVERYBODY!

HI!

mmpf..

DAGGER, YOU CERTAINLY SHOULD BE PROUD THAT MARVEL SAW FIT TO REVIVE THAT GRAND OLD NAME, **STRANGE TALES**, TO HOUSE YOUR EXPLOITS!

Gee, really? Y'mean there was **ANOTHER** **STRANGE TALES**?

WELL, YOU'RE SO YOUNG! WE OLDFATHERS REMEMBER HOW THE HUMAN TORCH AND LATER THE THING WERE SPUN OUT OF THE PAGES OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR AND INTO THE PAGES OF **STRANGE TALES** WAY BACK IN 1961, BRINGING THE BOOKS DRY AS AN ANTHODOGY TITLE TO AN END FOR-EVER.

WE RECALL HOW NICK FURY WAS CALLED UPON TO LEAD HIS AGENTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D. THROUGH ITS PAGES--AND OF COURSE, MOST EVERYONE KNOWS THAT YOUR CURRENT BOOKMATE, DR. STRANGE, FIRST APPEARED IN **STRANGE TALES** ALL THOSE YEARS AGO...

...AND ALL THESE YEARS LATER, LOOK WHERE I'VE WOUND UP!

BAH!

DOC AND NICK GRADUATED TO THEIR OWN BOOKS, SO BACK IN 1968 **STRANGE TALES** WAS CANCELLED BUT MARVEL HAS INDEED REVIVED IT A NUMBER OF TIMES, INCLUDING A RUN FEATURING SOME HIGHLY THOUGHT OF WARP-DECK STORIES. MY DEAR, YOU SHOULD BE PROUD...

Wow, THAT'S NEAT! TELL ME WHO ELSE APPEARED IN THOSE GREAT OLD **STRANGE TALES**? huh? TELL ME--WHO?

uh, THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT MY DEAR. WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU'VE GOT CLOAK AND DR. STRANGE AT YOUR SIDE, AND FOR THIS, REALLY, YOU SHOULD BE PROUD--

TELL HER, HEMBECK!

YES, TELL ME, MR. HEMBECK!...

WELL, THERE WERE SOME DR. STRANGE REPRINTS...

FORGET THOSE GUY REPRINTS! TELL HER ABOUT THE OTHER TWO CHARACTERS WHO FIRST APPEARED IN **STRANGE TALES**!

...BROTHER VOOODOO AND THE GOBLIN...

BROTHER VOOODOO AND WHO?

GOOGAM, SON OF GOOMZ.

uh, WHY DON'T WE GO TO THE CLIP NOW?

"CLIPS" PLURAL. WE'VE BROUGHT SEPARATE CLIPS BECAUSE WE HAVE SEPARATE ADVENTURES!

TELL HER, HEMBECK!

TELL HER, HEMBECK!

PLEASE--TELL ME!

OKAY, BUT DON'T SAY I DIDN'T TRY TO SPARE YOU THIS--

PLEASE--TELL ME!

ALL RIGHT, THEN--

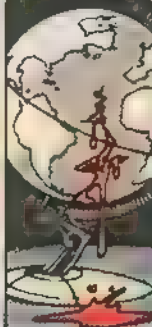
AND RUN MINE FIRST. MAYBE I'M STUCK BACK IN **STRANGE TALES** AGAIN, BUT THE LEAST I DEMAND IS A LITTLE RESPECT!

AND THAT'S JUST WHAT WE'LL GIVE YOU DOC THE LEAST LITTLE RESPECT!

DR-RUMP BUMP!!

AAAAANNND-- ROLL 'EM!

I have the honor to acknowledge
 the receipt of your letter of the 10th
 inst. and in reply to inform you
 that the same has been forwarded
 to the proper authorities for their
 consideration. I am, Sir,
 very respectfully,
 Yours,
 J. M. Smith



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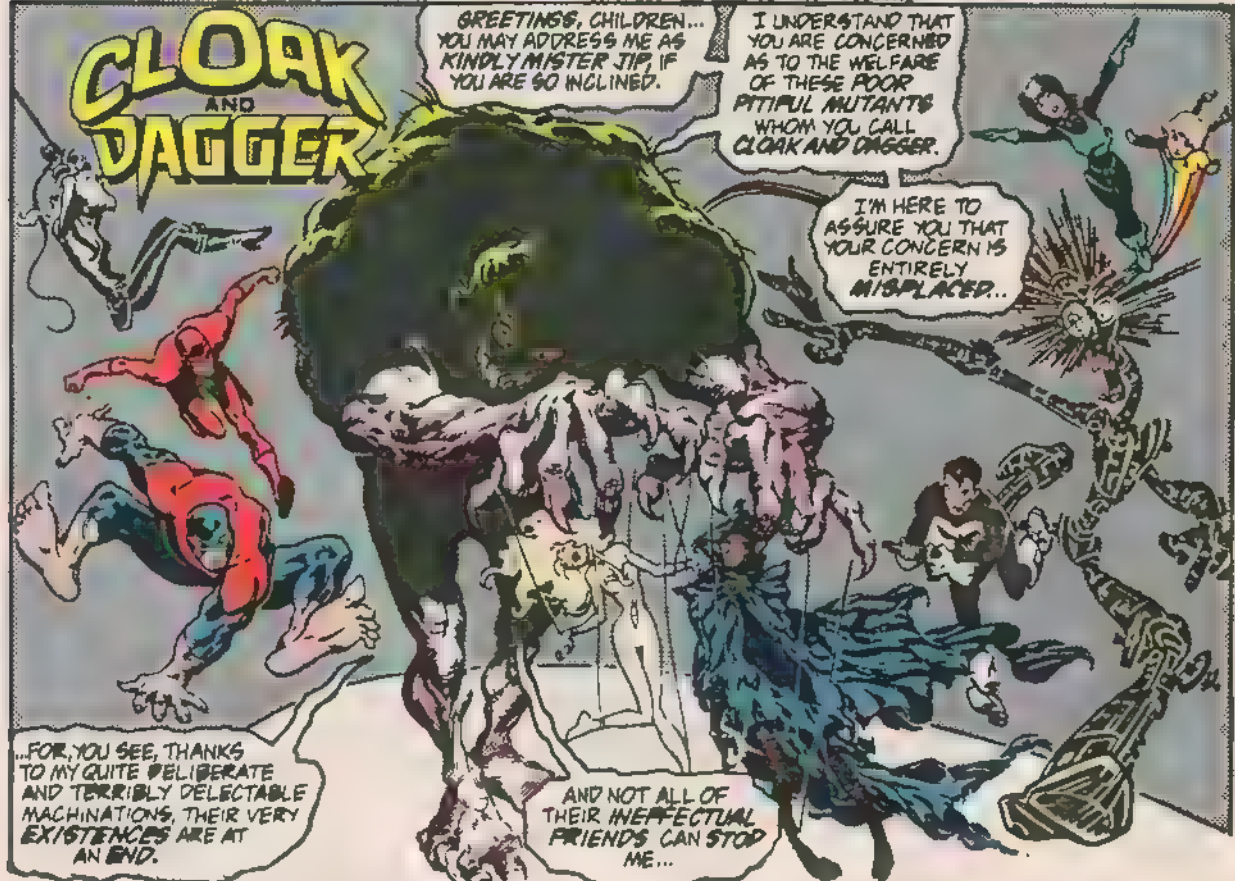


uncertain
how much
more this
will change
me."

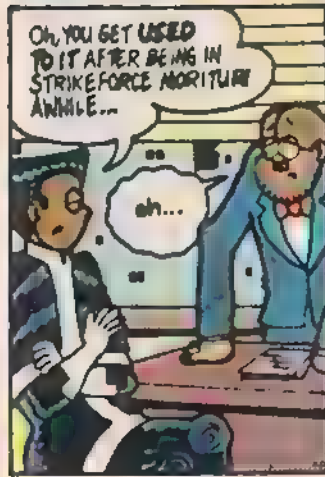
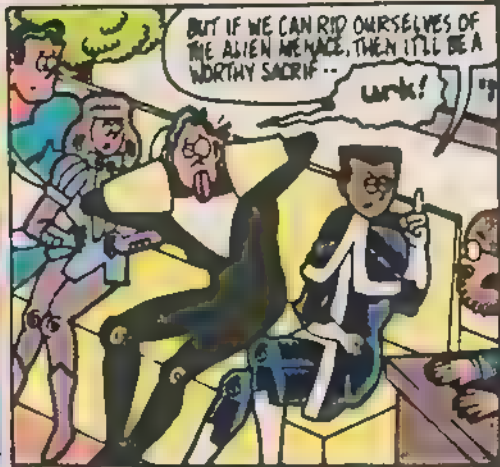
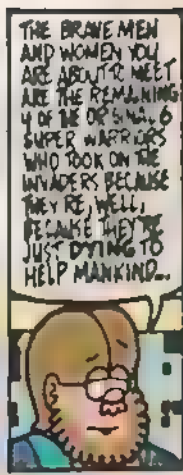
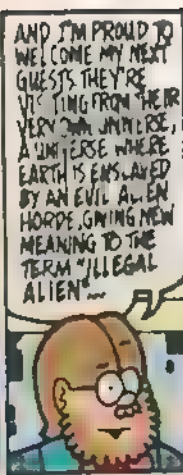


CLOAK AND DAGGER

AND NOT ALL OF
THEIR INEFFECTUAL
FRIENDS CAN STOP
ME



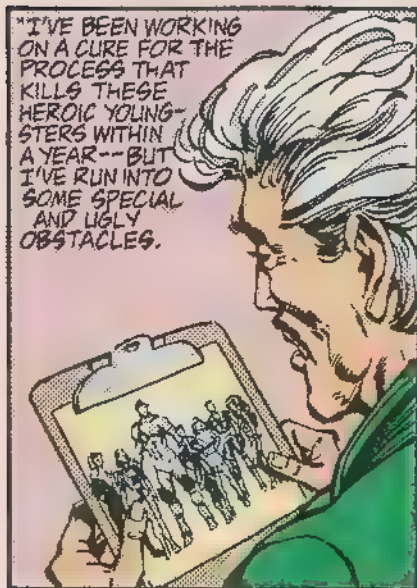
28



'WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE'
Strikeforce
MORITURI



"STRIKEFORCE MORITURI REPORT: AS THE MORITURI TEAM DEVELOPS INTO A FORMIDABLE FIGHTING FORCE, THERE ARE STILL GROUNDS FOR CONCERN."



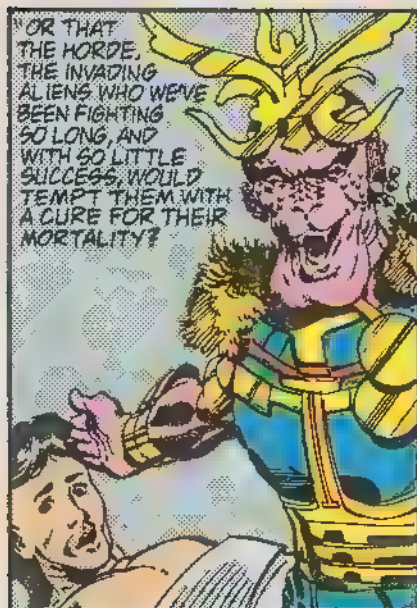
"I'VE BEEN WORKING ON A CURE FOR THE PROCESS THAT KILLS THESE HEROIC YOUNGSTERS WITHIN A YEAR--BUT I'VE RUN INTO SOME SPECIAL AND UGLY OBSTACLES."



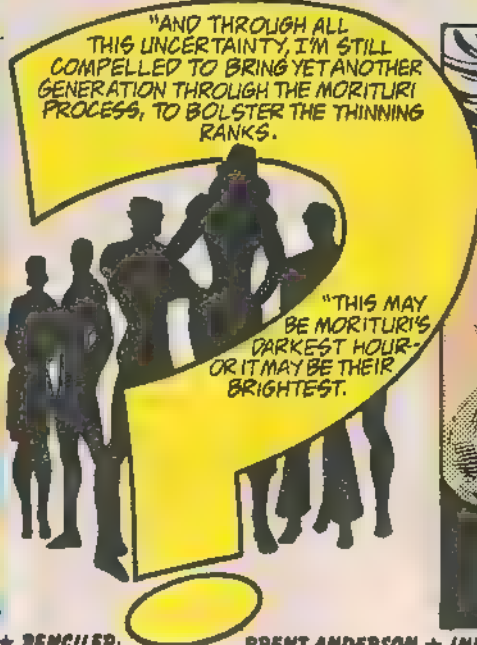
"HOW COULD I EXPECT THAT DEATH--SO FAMILIAR HERE--WOULD STRIKE IN AN UNEXPECTED AREA?"



"OR THAT ONE OF OUR FEMALE MEMBERS WOULD GET PREGNANT WITH A CHILD THAT SHE WILL NEVER SEE BORN?"



"OR THAT THE HORDE, THE INVADING ALIENS WHO WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING SO LONG, AND WITH SO LITTLE SUCCESS, WOULD TEMPT THEM WITH A CURE FOR THEIR MORTALITY?"



"AND THROUGH ALL THIS UNCERTAINTY, I'M STILL COMPELLED TO BRING YET ANOTHER GENERATION THROUGH THE MORITURI PROCESS, TO BOLSTER THE THINNING RANKS."

"THIS MAY BE MORITURI'S DARKEST HOUR--OR IT MAY BE THEIR BRIGHTEST."



"ALL I KNOW IS..."

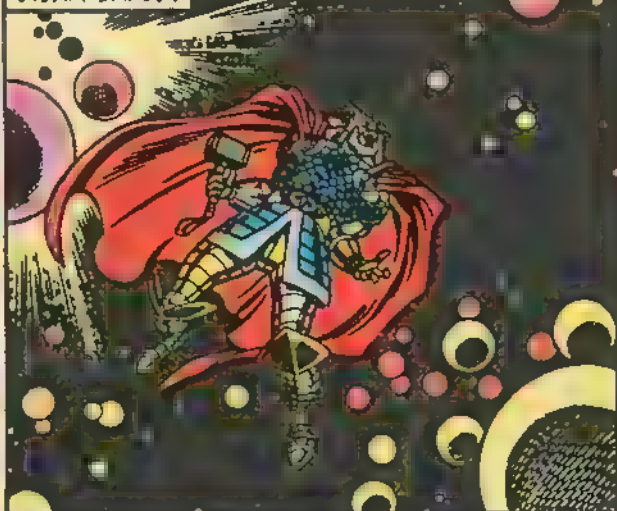
"THINGS WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN."

OKAY, LITTLE ONES! BE STILL
AND VOLSTAGG WILL TELL YOU
A TALE OF...

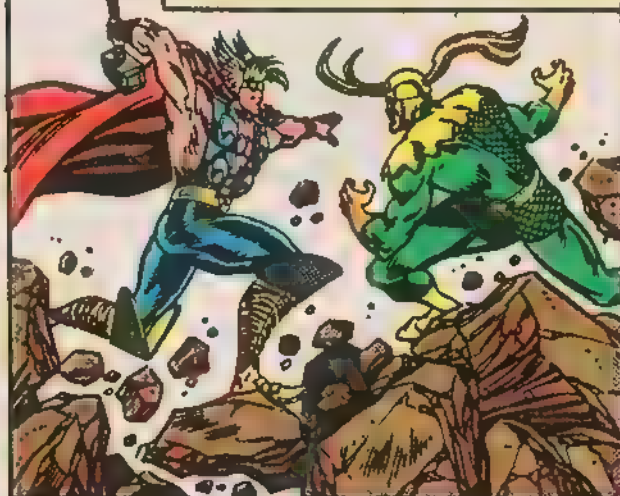
the mighty THOR



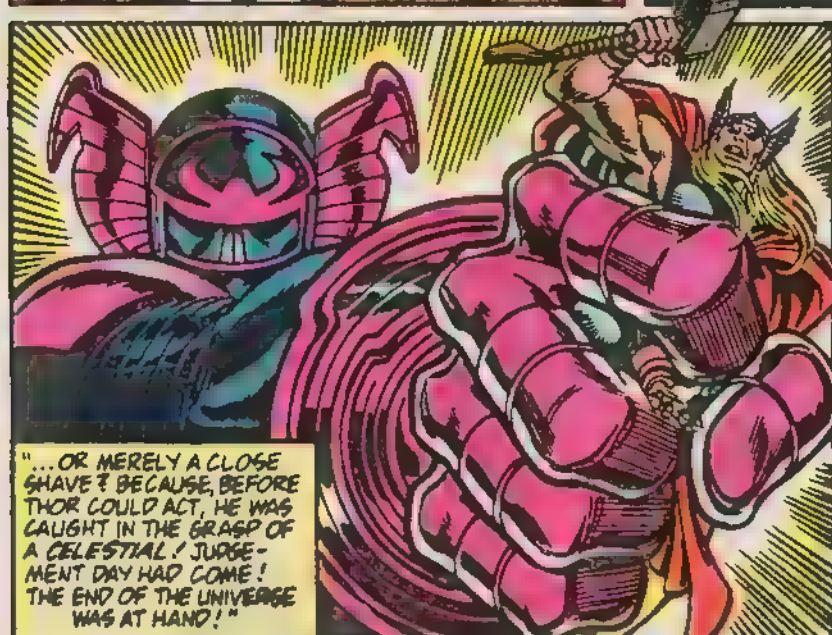
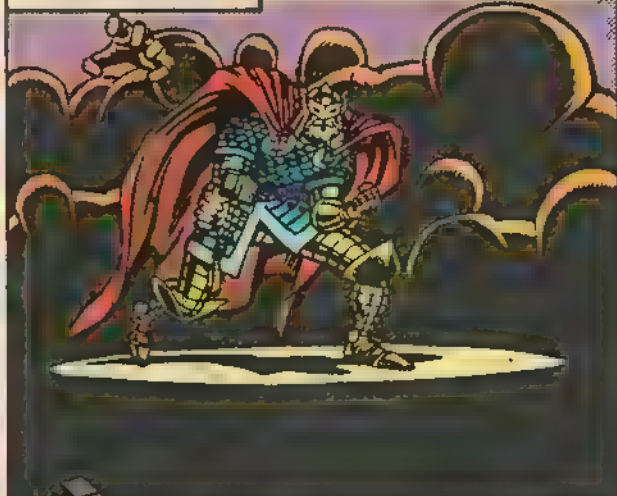
"ONCE UPON A TIME, THOR LEFT ASGARD, THE HOME
OF THE GODS, TO RETURN TO HIS BELOVED EARTH--
ONLY TO FIND THAT THE WORLD OF THE MORTALS HAD
DISAPPEARED!"



"ADrift IN SPACE, THOR CONTEMPLATED
HIS FUTURE INCARNATIONS, WONDERING
IF HE WOULD ALWAYS BE LOCKED IN COMBAT
WITH HIS WICKED HALF-BROTHER, LOKI!"

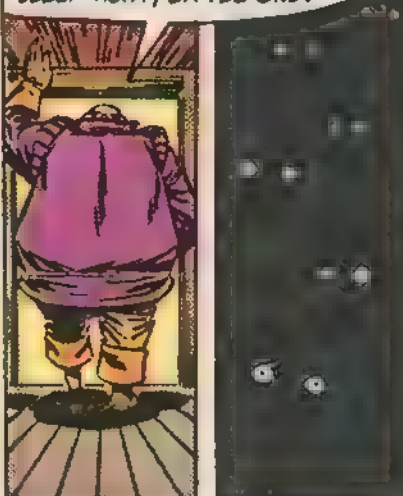


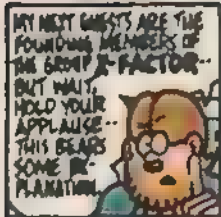
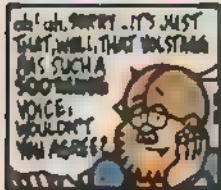
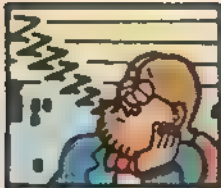
"SUDDENLY, THE VERY FABRIC OF TIME AND SPACE WAS
RIPPED ASUNDER! THOR WAS SET UPON BY EVIL GODS
FROM OTHERWHERE! WOULD THIS BE THE END OF
THE THUNDER GOD...?"



"...OR MERELY A CLOSE
SHAVE? BECAUSE, BEFORE
THOR COULD ACT, HE WAS
CAUGHT IN THE GRASP OF
A CELESTIAL! JUDGE-
MENT DAY HAD COME!
THE END OF THE UNIVERSE
WAS AT HAND!"

BUT ENOUGH! I'LL TELL YOU HOW
VOLSTAGG THE VOLUMINOUS CAME
TO THOR'S RESCUE AND SAVED THE
UNIVERSE... TOMORROW NIGHT!
SLEEP TIGHT, LITTLE ONES!





IN PREPARATION FOR THIS SHOW, I TOLD MY PRODUCER/DIRECTOR JIM SALICRUP THAT I'D LIKE X-FACTOR TO APPEAR. HE CAUTIONED ME THAT THEY'D MOST LIKELY HONOR MY REQUEST IN THEIR MATCHING JUMPSUITS AND SUNGLASSES, AND IF I WANTED TO SEE 'EM IN THEIR STIFFY SUPER PAPER CLOTHES, I'D BEST PETITION THEIR ALTER EGOS, THE X-TERMINATORS!



WELL, I'LL TAKE PLASH ANY DAY, SO I GAVE JIM THE GREEN LIGHT TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS, AND NOW, WITHOUT FURTHER ADD, FOLKS, I GIVE YOU--



--THE X-TERMINATORS?!?

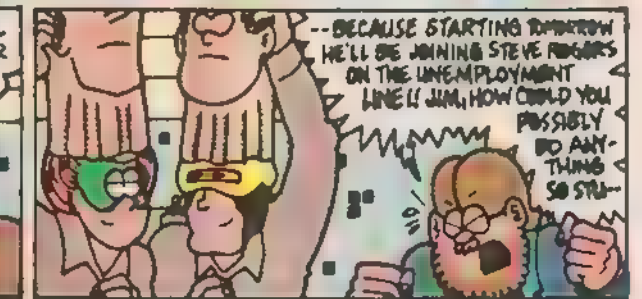
EVENIN', FRIEND. OUR MOTTO IS "WE MAKE YOUR ANTS CRY UNCLE"--WHAT CAN WE DO YOU FOR?



Y'KNOW, I'VE SEEN THE SHOW--MAYBE A GENERAL FUMIGATION IS IN ORDER?...



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, YOU'VE TUNED IN ON A VERY SPECIAL NIGHT, AS THIS MARKS THE FINAL PROGRAM PRODUCER/DIRECTOR JIM SALICRUP WILL BE WORKING ON--



...ooooooooops...

SURPRISE!



ANYTHING BUT THE X-MEN, FRED. --IT'D BE APPRECIATED! SALLY, JIM? ALL IS FOR GIVEN, GUY JIM.

X FACTOR

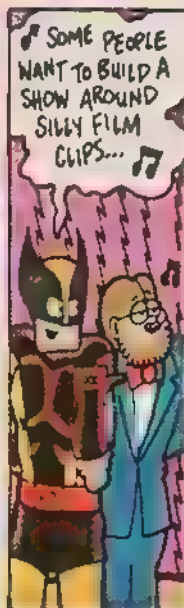
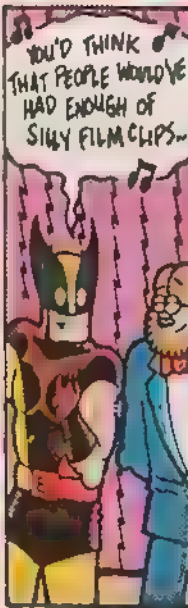
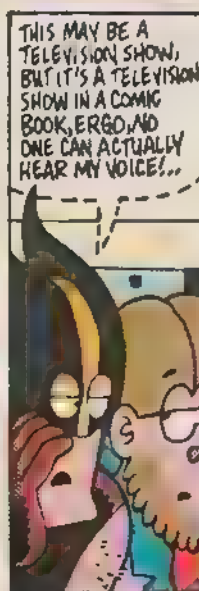
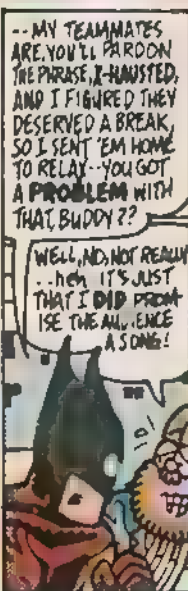
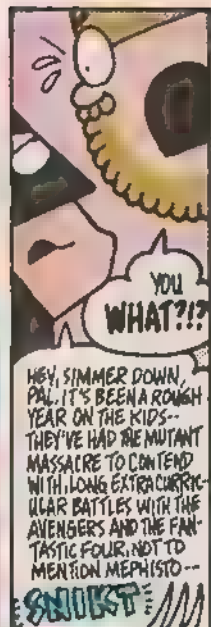
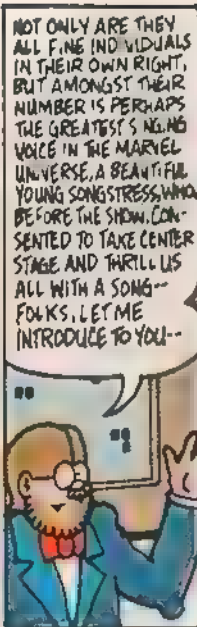
THEY ARE MUTANTS--CYCLOPS, MARVEL GIRL, THE BEAST, ICEMAN, AND CALIBAN--HUMANS BORN WITH THE X-FACTOR IN THEIR GENETIC STRUCTURE THAT GIVES THEM MORE THAN HUMAN POWERS.

THEY FORM AN ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS X-FACTOR, DEDICATED TO THE RESCUE OF PERSECUTED MUTANTS AND TO TEACHING CONTROL OF THEIR OFTEN DEADLY POWERS.

BUT, SOMEHOW, THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSE HAS BEEN PERVERTED! THROUGH THEIR PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR, CAMERON HODGE, THEY FOUND THEMSELVES PASSING AS HUMAN MUTANT HUNTERS...

...AND THEIR ORGANIZATION INVOLVED IN AN INFLAMMATORY ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN, ENCOURAGING THE PERSECUTION OF THOSE VERY MUTANTS THEY WERE DEDICATED TO SAVING.

WHO IS CAMERON HODGE? HOW DID THIS HAPPEN? WHY DID THEY LET THIS HAPPEN? AND WILL X-FACTOR BE ABLE TO STOP THE CARNAGE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE?





IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, I FEEL A TUG ON MY ARM. THE LENS OF MY GOGGLES IS BURNING BY MY EYE. THAT'S WHEN I PROFESSOR XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS IS BATTERED WITH A SUPERNATURAL JERK. SOMETHING'S A GOING ON OUT THERE. WITHIN THE HOUR OF THE DAY.

SO MUCH FOR MYSTERY. I JUST THINK I DESERVED

THAT WOULD BE WRONG.

I'M THE TEAM'S WAR CHIEF.

I TELL MYSELF I DO MY BEST. THAT THESE THINGS HAPPEN. IT ISN'T MY FAULT.

I DON'T MATTER. I'M RESPONSIBLE. I SHOULD HAVE FOUND A WAY.

THE OTHERS MAY GIVE ME I DON'T THINK I EVER WILL MYSELF.

YOU OKAY, ILLYANA?

ARE ANY OF US SAM?

I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT VENGEANCE--

AND HOW NICE IT'LL BE TO SETTLE OLD SCORES BLOOD FOR BLOOD.

LIFE FOR LIFE.

AN OLD MAN IN THE DISTANT MOUNTAINS, THE MOUNTAIN SMILES AT HER.

A KITTY PRYDE'S ARE IN THE SETTING SUN AND WOULD BEAT HER HEART TO THE BEAT.

BETTER ETERNAL OBLIVION...

THAN THIS AWFUL, RAVENING HOLLOWNESS WITHIN HER BREAST.

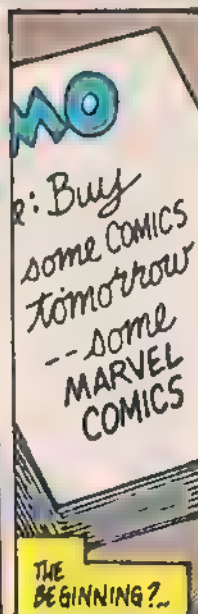
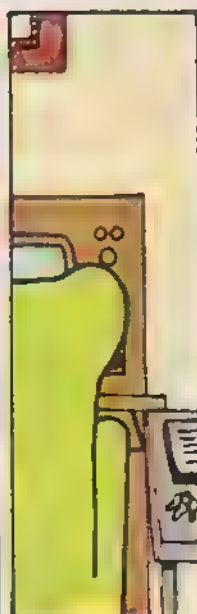
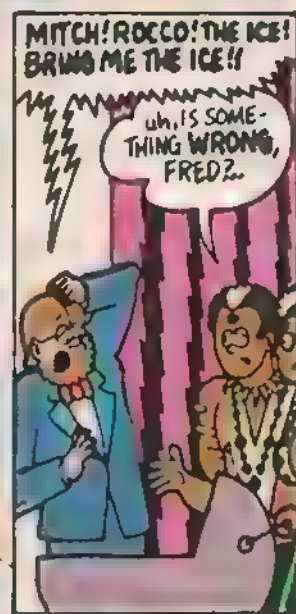
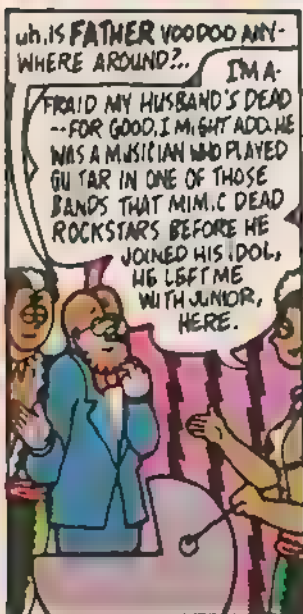
IT CAN'T FAIR NIGHT CRAWLER!

AFTER ALL THE X-MEN HAVE DONE, I HAVE THINGS TO SAY TO YOU. IT'S AS IF I CAN BEAR.

BUT BEAR THIS, I'LL BE SHALL CHACKWAT.

BECAUSE TO BREAK WOULD BE TO GIVE OUR ENEMIES THE FINAL VICTORY--

AND THAT I SHALL NEVER DO!



MARVEL

TRIVIA

QUIZ

When **Jim** and **Dwight** requested a double-length trivia quiz for the **MARVEL AGE ANNUAL**, my mind raced into high gear — and not just at the thought of an extra paycheck. Should I ask, I wondered, any of the **REALLY** hard questions? They're stashed away at the back of my files, and they include such stumpers as: What color is **Betsy Braddock's** hair? How many stories have *really* been titled, "When Titans Clash"? Does **Fred Hembeck**

really have those funny curlicues on his elbows and knees? How many out-of-the-way, little-known, but truly outstanding bars and restaurants have **Chris Claremont's** characters visited?

Inasmuch as this is the **MARVEL AGE ANNUAL**, however, we felt that maybe the "annual" concept should be emphasized. The forty questions below deal with heroes and events that have been in prominence over just

the last year or so. Have you been paying attention lately? Think back, for a change, to only the recent past — though I have thrown in one question at the end for nostalgia's sake — and see whether the last cycle of seasons is all a blur, or whether you know the answers to these teasers! And if you can't, you'll find all the answers on page 48

—Brian Nelson

1. What friend to **Cloak** and **Dagger** was a UCLA dropout?

2. The **Scarlet Witch** recently gave birth to twin boys, but if she had delivered a girl, what would the baby have been named?

3. What annoying supporting character from the **DEFENDERS** returned recently in the pages of **DAREDEVIL**?

4. We were speaking of bars and restaurants above — what character from the history of the **Avengers** did **Wolverine** meet in **Richie's Bar**?

5. What does **ULTIMATUM** stand for?

6. While **Scourge** killed a score of super-villains lately, a second **Scourge** was responsible for the death of one of **Alpha Flight's** supporting characters — can you name her?

7. Who recently operated under the alias **Jay Jameson** to prevent starting a police record for himself?

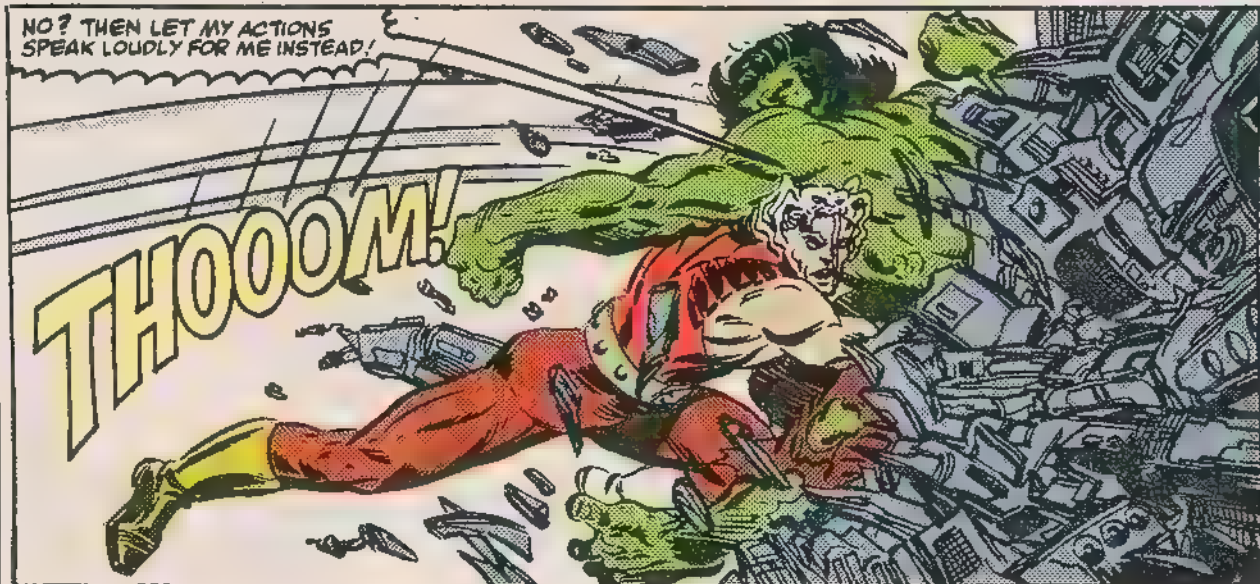
8. **Thor** recently encountered what veteran of World War VII?

9. Super-villains and supporting characters have had a high mortality rate these days, but what spacecraft "died" in a crash landing on Earth, piloted by the **Kymellian Kofi**?



NO? THEN LET MY ACTIONS
SPEAK LOUDLY FOR ME INSTEAD!

THOOOM!



10. Who was **Flash Thompson's** lawyer in the **Hobgoblin** case?

11. Just as **Fenris** is a code-name for a brother and sister (you remember that from a trivia quiz the other month, right?), so did **Karma's** brother and sister operate under a single, super-powered code name last year. Can you name both them and their super-alias?

12. What villains ganged up on **Hercules** to put him in the hospital? (Hint — there were six of them.)

13. And while we're listing villains, can you recall all seven of the baddies who battled the **West Coast Avengers** in 1976?

14. Who is **Frank Bohannon**, and what **X-Man** did he recently hassle?

15. **John Garrett** and **Arthur Ferry** were once-upon-a-time partners operating for what agency?

16. Who officiated at the marriage of **Johnny Storm** and **Alicia Masters**?

17. Who officiated at the marriage of **Namor** and **Marrina**?

18. What is the claim to fame of **Damascus Steel Mills** in **Pittsburgh, PA**?

19. Who is the demolitions expert for the **Hulkbusters**?

20. In what spacecraft did **Dr. Stephen Beckley** travel to observe **Halley's Comet**, and subsequently become the **Comet Man**?

21. Who was the first character in the **New Universe** to meet **Fred Hembeck**?

22. What **Marvel** character received paychecks from **North Star Airways**?

23. What does the **Dazzler** have in common with **Ben Locklin** and **Grey Havero**?

24. By what name is **Ulysses X. Lugman** more repulsively known?

25. They're the **Seekers**, they threatened **Iron Man** and **Spider-Woman** — what are their individual codenames?

26. What brothers seemingly killed each other in the **Fantastic Four's** own headquarters?

27. Where was the **Angel** hospitalized?

28. Who appointed **Conan** king of the city-state **El Shah Maddoc**?

29. What heroine led the "Super Heroes Against Drugs" campaign?

30. Who did **Dr. Strange** seek out when his cloak of levitation needed repair?

31. Can you name the head groundskeeper of the **Palos Verdes** compound operated by the **West Coast Avengers**?

32. This hero's romantic interlude with dancer **Anya Makarova** was not revealed until this year, though it happened years ago — who is he?

33. **Spider-Man** was invited to use the toll-free number, 1-800-555-7020, to contact which of his many acquaintances?

34. What hero did **NOT** appear on **Marvel's 25th Anniversary** cover border: **Puck**, **Hercules**, **Power Man**, or **Phoenix**?

35. While hunting the **Hulk**, **Doc Samson** lost his job teaching at what famous university?

36. What cruise ship did **Ken Connel** rescue from terrorists?

37. Who invented the **Monturi** process?

38. Whom did the networks send to film **Pvt. Marks'** platoon in **Vietnam**?

39. In what body of water did **Magнето's Asteroid M** land?

40. Okay, here's a tough one. Last year, a **Marvel** series ended its run with a black super hero unjustly accused of the death of his white partner. Amazingly enough, this was the **SECOND** **Marvel** series to end this way! Can you name the two series involved in this odd coincidence?



SPOILER WARNING: If you don't want to know some of the secrets and surprises coming up in your favorite Marvel comics—don't read this article!! You've been warned!

MARVEL

A to Z

Ta daaa! We sent our hard-working **MARVEL AGE** MAGAZINE reporter, **Dwight Jon Zimmerman**, out to get the latest news on all the Marvel, Epic, Star and New Universe comics for the upcoming year, and he came back totally exhausted! Over seventy titles are jam-packed onto these pages. We listed them in alphabetical order from A to Z as is our annual tradition, even though it actually goes only from A to X. Though this year we kinda got close with our new Epic comic, **DOCTOR ZERO**. We tried to list it as **ZERO, DOCTOR** so that we *could* actually have an A to Z listing, but . . .

Enough silliness, let's roll!

AIR RAIDERS

Howard Mackie, writer; **Kelly Jones**, illustrator. A Star comic \$1.00.

It is a world where air is more precious than gold

It is a world where an evil government hoards the life-saving atmosphere for itself. Only the legendary freedom fighters known as **Air Raiders** have the power to defy the government. Despite the almost overwhelming forces arrayed against them, the Air Raiders refuse to rest until the life-sustaining air is again free for all to breathe.

ALIEN LEGION

Alan Zelenetz, writer; **Larry Stroman**, penciler; **Randy Emberlin**, inker. An Epic comic. Direct Sales only. Baxter paper. \$1.75.

There's a new **ALIEN LEGION** #1 coming this fall. That's right, **ALIEN LEGION** has been renumbered. And the saga will focus on a whole new chapter in the lives of the multi-racial intergalactic peace-keeping force

The new focus will be more gritty and hard-hitting. **Sarigar** will become the leader of a special Legion Task Force whose function will be to strike at hot spots across the galaxy and neutralize the threat they pose—by whatever means is necessary.

ALPHA FLIGHT

Bill Mantlo, writer; **Jim Lee**, penciler. 75¢.

Will Canada's top super hero team be destroyed? Considering the threats arrayed against it in the upcoming year, it will require all the wits, skill, and strength of **Vindicator**, the new **Box**, and **Sasquatch** just to stay alive. Even the help of their friends in **Beta Flight**, the **Purple Girl** and the amazing **Mannikin**, might not be enough to combat the threats.

The catalyst for the crises to come is found in one of the sub-cellars of the old Dept. H. In searching for facts about the formation of **Alpha Flight** left by the late **James McDonald Hudson**, the **Guardian**, Canadian government liaison **Gary Cody** discovers a creature sealed in suspended animation. The creature's name is **Bedlam** and he is a failed experiment of **Guardian's** who blames **Hudson** for the agony he's suffered and his imprisonment. **Cody** releases **Bedlam**. **Bedlam** completely destroys **Alpha Mansion** while searching for the deceased **Guardian**. **Alpha Flight** discovers that not only is **Bedlam** too strong to stop, but that the trashing of their place is just the first step in his quest for revenge against **Alpha Flight**.

The Canadian government, meanwhile, no longer trusts **Alpha Flight** and is looking for ways to control them. Left on their own, **Alpha Flight** will find themselves hard-pressed to make ends meet.

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

J. Marc DeMatteis, **Ann Nocenti**, and **David Michelinie**, writers; **Mike Zeck**, **Cynthia Martin**, and **Todd McFarlane**, pencilers; **Bob McLeod** and **Steve Leialoha**, inkers. 75¢.

Yes, he's married. But if you think life for **Spider-Man** is going to settle down, guess again. To begin with, there's the gut-wrenching six-part **Spidey** vs. **Kraven** saga cross-over with both **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** and **PETER PARKER THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN** written by **J. Marc DeMatteis**, penciled by **Mike Zeck**, and inked by **Bob McLeod**. Then **Spider-Man** becomes entangled in a three-part, soul-chilling family conflict written by **Ann Nocenti**, penciled by **Cynthia Martin**, and inked by **Steve Leialoha**.

David Michelinie, **Spidey's** regular scripter, plans no peace for the wall-crawler either. **Spidey** will discover that his old nemesis, **Doctor Octopus** is setting up a twisted plan to get rid of **Spidey**—by destroying Manhattan! **Spider-Man** will find himself in the position where the only way for him to save millions of lives is to give himself up to **Doc Ock**.

But the threat posed by **Doctor Octopus** is nothing compared to that of the mysterious person who possesses the ability to attack **Spider-Man** without triggering his spidey-sense. **Spidey's** problem with this person will get worse and worse, finally reaching a breaking point in issue #300. The revelation of that person's identity, and why he's been chasing **Spider-Man**, will be one of the most traumatic events in **Spider-Man's** life.

THE AVENGERS

Roger Stern, writer; **John Buscema**, penciler; **Tom Palmer**, inker. 75¢.

"Twilight of the Gods" is the title of **THE AVENGERS** #285 and it features the devastating finale to the five-part Avengers/Greek Gods war. It will also settle once-and-for-all the fate of Hercules and his father, Zeus.

After returning from the home of the Greek Gods, the Avengers will discover that the evil Fixer has escaped from jail and is searching for signs of artificial intelligence in America. His search will be all-too successful as the Avengers quickly discover. For the Fixer will find and send against them the Mad Thinker's Android and the Super Adaptoid. The Fixer will also get his hands on Machine Man. What happens then will be very surprising.

The Avengers will become involved in Steve Rogers' battles with the U.S. government once they learn that the government has barred him from ever being Captain America again. The Avengers will also become entangled in the Sub-Mariner's legal problems. On the romantic side, the next twelve months promise to show what's going on in the personal lives of Captain Marvel, the Black Knight, She-Hulk, and the Sub-Mariner.

Starfox will return and as a result of his report, half of the Avengers team will return with him to space to combat the trouble brewing with Nebula.

BLOOD: A Tale

J. Marc DeMattels, writer; Kent Williams, illustrator. A Four-Volume Limited Series. Perfect-Bound. An Epic Comic. Direct Sales only For Mature Readers. \$2.95.

Within the walls of the monastery, the man called Blood studied for years in search of the knowledge of truth . . . only to find the monastery's teachings to be nothing but lies. Angry and alone, Blood sets out in the world and is suddenly attacked, killed and reborn . . .

. . . as a vampire. Now, the only hope he has of ever regaining his lost humanity is to make his way across a mythic and mysterious landscape, and to survive the horrifying adventures that lie ahead of him.

BULLWINKLE AND ROCKY

Dave Manak, writer; Ernie Colon, penciler; Jacqueline Roettcher, inker. A Star comic. \$1.00.

The classic cartoon favorites, Bullwinkle, Rocky the Flying Squirrel, Boris Badenov, Natasha Fatale, Captain Peter "Wrongway" Peachfuzz, Mr. Peabody, Sherman, Dudley Dornright, Nell, Snidely Whiplash, return to comics in all new adventures! And joining them are the new dastardly villains, Baron von Schtunk and his sidekick Schulz. Expect more of the great wacky humor that made the animated television series such a hit!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

Mark Gruenwald, writer; Tom Morgan, penciler; Dave Hunt, inker. 75¢.

The new Captain America, introduced in issue #333, is going to be a major force in the series for the next twelve months. The conflict between the two Caps is that the new Captain America blindly serves his government and the old Captain America serves the will of the people.

In issues #333-335, Steve Rogers, the old Cap, does not appear. The focus will be on the new Cap, who he is, his training, and his first mission. Also, during basic training, the new Cap will get a new Bucky who has gone through the same strength augmentation process as Cap.

With issue #336, Steve Rogers reappears and it's revealed what he's been doing during the months when the

new Cap was taking over. Since Steve Rogers can't wear his old costume anymore, what will he do? Steve is joined by his friends and former partners, the Falcon, Nomad, and D-Man and they will form a loose-knit super hero team. Since this dismissal is the worst thing ever to happen to Steve, his friends will be very concerned about him and will do everything they can to help him.

Will the two Captain Americas eventually meet? At first, no. But eventually it is entirely possible—especially after Steve Rogers discovers that the new Cap is out to supplant his reputation.

CARE BEARS

Michael Gallagher, writer; Howard Post, penciler; Jacqueline Roettcher, inker. A Star comic. \$1.00.

The colorful Rainbow Express which connects Care-A-Lot to Earth is going to get a real work-out in the upcoming months! For each issue of the **CARE BEARS** is going to be packed with more fast-paced and fun-filled adventures than ever! Just one of the many highlights in store for Care Bears fans is the wacky cross-over with **MADBALLS**. Now, that's something that has to be seen to be believed!

CLASSIC X-MEN

Chris Claremont, writer; Dave Cockrum, John Byrne, John Bolton, and Terry Austin, artists. 32 pages. \$1.00.

CLASSIC X-MEN #15 will re-present the debut of John Byrne as penciler. The tale from **THE UNCANNY X-MEN** #108 features the first appearance of the Canadian super group Alpha Flight. Among the highlights in store for the next year are: Mesmero's domination of the X-Men—he transforms them into circus freaks! Plus: the return of Magneto; and the multi-part Savage Land saga where the X-Men battle Sauron!

The new stories in the back-up feature, illustrated by John Bolton, will no longer be solely tied to the main story. On occasion they will reveal heretofore unknown incidents in the lives of the X-Men which are completely unrelated to the main adventure.

CONAN SAGA

Roy Thomas, writer; Barry Windsor-Smith, penciler; Dan Adkins, Sal Buscema, Tom Sutton, and Tom Palmer, inkers. A Marvel Magazine. \$2.00.

Reprinting classic **CONAN THE BARBARIAN** stories in black and white, you'll get to see such adventures as the adaptation of Conan creator Robert E. Howard's story "Rogues In The House," and the epic meeting between Conan and the tragic wizard-king Etrik of Melniboné. Each issue will feature a new color cover illustration by Barry Windsor-Smith.

CONAN THE BARBARIAN

Jim Owsley, writer; Val Semeiks, penciler; Geoff Isherwood, inker. \$1.00.

Conan is going to leave the kingdom of Koth. He'll be heading south and will fall in with a group of *kozakis* who have been waging a guerilla war against the Hyrkanian Empire.

For the first six months of the upcoming year, Conan will fight his way to the leadership of the *kozakis* and then begin a series of raids against the neighboring nations of Hyrkania and Turan that become so bold and so successful

that these two nations are forced into an alliance. The next six months will reveal how devastating that alliance is to **Conan** and his *kozakis*. The kings of Hyrkania and Turan will hire the merciless **Shah of Amurath** and his army to destroy the raiders. And **Conan** will discover that the **Shah of Amurath** will stop at nothing to do just exactly that.

CONAN THE KING

Don Kraar, writer; Mike Docherty, penciler. \$1.25.

King Conan is in a war of survival. The nations bordering his kingdom of Aquilonia have invaded his country and are doing their best to kill him and destroy his army. The battle has seen first one side, then the other, seem to gain the upper hand. **King Conan** has had to pay a heavy price just to stay alive—for even his young son **Taurus** has fallen. The war will reach its final and bloodiest chapter in **CONAN THE KING #45**. Yet **King Conan** will discover that the cataclysmic battle that ends the war does not eliminate all his troubles. The political intrigues, power plays, and other unforeseen events arising in the aftermath of the war will give him great cause to wish for the simpler, more direct, problems of total war. For at least in war, you clearly know who your enemies are!

DAREDEVIL

Ann Nocenti, writer. 75¢.

"In issue #249, **Daredevil** will team up with **Wolverine** to go after a mutant killer named **Bushwacker**," **Ann Nocenti** said. After that, **Daredevil** will find himself dragged into current affairs issues, especially environmental problems. He'll be battling government agencies over the problem of toxic wastes—which will have a personal emphasis for him, since he was blinded by radioactive waste. And, as lawyer **Matt Murdock**, **Daredevil** will find it becoming increasingly hard to hold to the letter of the law when he begins to clash with the government over the toxic waste issue.

Karen Page will continue to be a supporting character in the series. And her relationship with **Matt** will grow closer. But there will be a new villainess appearing who'll become a major threat to that relationship.

THE DEATH OF GROO Graphic Novel

Mark Evanier, writer; Sergio Aragones, artist. \$6.95.

At long last, the story that **Groo** watchers everywhere have been waiting for finally happens. Everyone comes to celebrate as **Groo** dies! Or does he? With a barbarian as clumsy as **Groo**, never count on anything going right, not even his own death.

DOCTOR ZERO

Created by **Archie Goodwin**. An Epic Comic. Direct Sales only \$1.25.

By human standards, he's a villain. By the standards of his own people, the **Shadow** race which has evolved parallel to humans but with greater physical and psychic powers, he is an outlaw. He doesn't care what either group thinks. Ageless, almost eternal, he sees himself as a superior being on a singular path of evolution to perfection. One of the most powerful of the **Shadow** race, he feeds these

powers through psychic vampirism. Human beings are sometimes his pets, often his prey.

But today, that prey has the means to destroy the planet he considers his playground and his home. He means to do anything within his considerable powers to prevent that. To sway humanity to his will, he emerges from **Shadow** as a mysterious, real-life embodiment of a fantasy concept, the super hero: **Doctor Zero**. Zero for his unemotional state, his unknown, cypher-like identity. Doctor because he's ready to perform any operation it takes to fix things.

Leaders of mankind and members of his own race are torn between using him and destroying him. Too late, they usually find **Doctor Zero** using and destroying them.

DOCTOR ZERO is one of a new series of Epic comics with inter-related adventures. Companion titles with **DOCTOR ZERO** are **POWER LINE** and **ST. GEORGE**.

D.P. 7

Mark Gruenwald, writer; Paul Ryan, penciler. A New Universe comic. 75¢.

Issue #12 represents a major turning-point in the series. In it, **D.P. 7** will deal with the evil elements within the secretive **Clinic** once and for all. The climax of the issue will find **D.P. 7's Dave** and **Randy** fighting the sinister head of the **Clinic** who unleashes his surprising and incredibly powerful paranormal abilities.

Beginning with the next issue, **D.P. 7** will no longer be fugitives but will be using the facilities of the **Clinic** as their base of operations. They'll become a part of the **Clinic's** staff and administration. This will create a new set of problems and rivalries for the group. For, with four different groups of seven paranormals already at the **Clinic**, **D.P. 7** will discover even greater danger within the walls of the institution than they had on the outside.

ELFQUEST

Wendy and Richard Pini, writers; Wendy Pini, artist. An Epic comic. \$1.00.

Cutter and the **Wolfriders** will finally reach their goal, the legendary home of the **High Ones**. There they will receive the answer to the questions that were the catalyst for the elf quest. But those answers will give rise to some additional, and even more disturbing, questions. One elf will choose to remain in the home of the **High Ones**, while the others will return to their old homes in the forest. And **Cutter** will discover that, as he leads his band back to the woods, his life will never be the same again.

FANTASTIC FOUR

Steve Englehart, writer; John Buscema, penciler; Joe Sinnott, inker. 75¢

Though **Reed** and **Sue Richards** — **Mr. Fantastic** and the **Invisible Woman** — will appear from time to time, the new **Fantastic Four** will be the **Thing**, the **Human Torch**, **Crystal**, and **Ms. Marvel**.

The dynamic interplay of the team members that was so much a highlight of the **Fantastic Four's** adventures in the Sixties will take on a whole new meaning with this group. For one thing, **Ms. Marvel** is a man-hater. And while she has no problem dealing with the **Thing**, her attitude about the **Human Torch** is far more complex—and dangerous. With **Crystal**, his former girl-friend, once again with the team, **Johnny** will discover himself in the middle of a domestic problem that will be a constant source of trouble between him and his wife, **Alicia**.

The **Thing** will discover that being the leader of the team is more of a problem than he dreamed. And the villains the

new FF have to face won't make life any easier for him, either. In addition to **Dr. Doom**, who'll be having some pretty serious problems of his own just trying to regain the throne of Latveria, the new FF will face a deadlier **Diablo**, and a new villain who promises to become a major nemesis, **Fasaud**.

FLINTSTONE KIDS

Michael Gallagher and Dave Manak, writers; **Ernie Colon**, penciler; **Al Milgrom**, inker. A Star comic. \$1.00.

What were **Fred and Wilma, Barney and Betty**, and **Dino** like when they were young? The answer to that question, and a whole lot more, are found every two months in **THE FLINTSTONE KIDS**. In addition, there's a whole new cast of characters who'll make their lives anything but boring. For instance, there's **Fred's** rich **Uncle Mintstone**. Having a rich uncle might seem like a great thing, but **Fred** and the gang discover that his help often makes matters worse! There are also the classmates **Dreamchip**—a very wealthy girl who is out to steal **Fred** from **Wilma**, and **Rocky**, the school bully who has it in for everyone—especially **Fred** and **Barney**. And when they're not trying to get through their days of school and play, they will find themselves dreaming about what life will be like when they're grown up. But that's a whole *different* story . . .

G.I. JOE

Larry Hama, writer; **Ron Wagner**, penciler. \$1.00.

The action really kicks into high gear in the upcoming year for **G.I. JOE**. The **Joos** will be operating out of three separate bases, one in Utah, one in San Francisco, and an ultra secret one in the Arctic, as they try to stop **Cobra's** takeover of the world.

In addition, three people presumed dead, the **Joos Snake Eyes** and **Scarlett**, and the **Blind Master**, become members of a traveling circus in Europe in order to bust out the **Joos** imprisoned in a gulag in Borovia.

On the **Cobra** side of the fence, the situation there is a real snake-pit of intrigue. The **Crimson Guardsman Fred 7** is, with the help of the **Baroness**, impersonating **Cobra Commander** and plotting the overthrow of **Serpentor**. Is **Destro** and his new army supporting them? Or does he have plans of his own? Only time will reveal the answers to those questions.

With few **Joos** slated to join the ranks in the upcoming months, the **G.I. Joe** anti-terrorist strike force will find it hard-pressed to stem the even deadlier attacks on the free world by **Cobra** and the **Dreadnoks**.

G.I. JOE COMICS MAGAZINE

Larry Hama and **Steve Grant**, writers; **Mike Vosburg**, penciler; and **Jon D'Agostino**, inker. A Marvel Digest. 64 pages. \$1.50.

The adage of good things coming in small packages has never been truer in this digest series which features *three* classic **G.I. JOE** tales in each issue! Re-presented in chronological order, **G.I. JOE COMICS MAGAZINE** will be featuring not only action-packed adventures of **G.I. Joe's** war against the terrorist organization of **Cobra**, the digest will also contain in the upcoming year such fan-favorite tales as the death of the Eskimo mercenary, **Quinn**, the destruction of **G.I. Joe's** first secret headquarters, the Pit, and the death of the diabolical **Dr. Venom**.

G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS

Larry Hama, writer; **Herb Trimpe**, penciler. \$1.00

As the title states, these are special missions of America's greatest counter-terrorist "strikeforce"—assignments that take select squads of **Joos** and thrust them into the most dangerous trouble-spots in the world. Outnumbered and often out-gunned, fighting both human foes and the elements, they face perils even greater than those of the normal high-risk **G.I. Joe** missions because on their assignments, these soldiers are on their own!

GROO THE WANDERER

Sergio Aragones, creator and artist; **Mark Evanier**, cryptographer. An Epic comic. \$1.00

There may be new members of **Groo's** family popping up. **Groo** may learn a new way to sink a ship. But the last thing to expect out of this comic is a second joke.

However what can be expected, in addition to the same problems he's been pratfalling into already, is a special **Groo** Christmas story and the secret origin of the **Minstrel**. The famous Hidden Message will continue in each issue. And lovers of the bloodthirsty female warrior **Chakaal** can expect to see her cutting up in a story real soon.

HEATHCLIFF and HEATHCLIFF FUNHOUSE

Michael Gallagher, writer; **Warren Kremer**, penciler; and **Jacqueline Roettcher**, inker. Star comics. \$1.00.

The fur will really be flying furiously for **Heathcliff** in the upcoming year. For not only are there two series about Star's famous trouble-making feline, but each issue will be packed with lots more stories! So if you thought **Heathcliff** had been up to his ears in uproarious trouble last year—wait'll you see what's in store for him *now*!

HELLRIDER

Joe Jusko, writer and artist. An Epic comic. Direct Sales only. Baxter paper. For Mature Readers. \$2.95.

What "Road Warrior" is to the movies, **HELLRIDER** is to comics. It is a post-apocalyptic tale of the adventures of a lone motorcycle rider who wants to stay alone, stay free, and stay alive. And his enemies are determined to see that all he stays is *dead*.

THE INCREDIBLE HULK

Peter David, writer; **Todd McFarlane**, penciler. 75¢.

The U.S. government with **S.H.I.E.L.D.'s** aid embarks on its most ruthless plan to eliminate the **Hulk**. The stunningly simple plan is to kill **Bruce Banner**!

How will **Bruce** stay alive with all the local, state, and federal forces joined in a manhunt with the ultimate goal being his death? First, he goes underground. Second, he discovers that despite the danger, he still has friends willing to help him. Yet, **Bruce** finds himself risking everything in order to discover one thing: the whereabouts of his wife, **Betty**!

As for the **Hulk**, now that he's got the brains to go with his mountain-bashing brawn, expect him to be even *more* savage!

IRON MAN

David Michelinie, co-plotter and writer, Mark Bright, penciler; and Bob Layton, co-plotter and inker. 75¢.

Bold changes are in store for the armored **West Coast Avenger** beginning with **IRON MAN #225**. David Michelinie stated that a lot of the plans are still being worked out, but he did reveal that **Tony Stark** will find himself in situations where he is battling both the U.S. legal system and the U.S. government. But the big news will be the debut of the new—ultimate—**Iron Man** armor. David assured us that not only is it the most powerful suit of **Shell-Head** duds ever, it's also the greatest armor in the whole **Marvel Universe**. And he, **Mark**, and **Bob** are going to prove it!

CRASH—The Iron Man Graphic Novel

Mike Saenz, writer and artist. A **Marvel Graphic Novel**. **Baxter** paper. 72 pages. \$12.95

It's the future and **Tony Stark** must make the most fateful decision of his career as **Iron Man**: continue to enjoy the technological dreamworld he's created for himself—or take on the corrupt conglomerate threatening to use his technology for a worldwide nightmare of destruction. For **Tony Stark**, there really is no choice . . . and **Iron Man** stands ready to face his greatest adventure.

The art and color in **CRASH** will be completely computer-generated, the first such project of its kind. In addition, the **Graphic Novel** will feature an article written by **Mike Saenz**, describing the computer-to-printed book process.

JUSTICE

Gerry Conway and Peter David, writers; Keith Giffen, penciler. A **New Universe** comic. 75¢.

Justice will become much more of a vigilante in the upcoming months. The magic aspect of the series will disappear and be replaced by a more gritty type of adventure. Now that he has purged the evil within himself, he will be searching out all the evil in mankind. That will create some big problems.

THE LAST AMERICAN

John Wagner and Alan Grant, writers; Mike McMahon, artist. An **Epic** comic. Direct Sales only. \$1.95.

He is described as "the best fighting man America's ever produced." His rank is **Holocaust Commander**. His powers are absolute. Awakened from suspended animation twenty years after a nuclear holocaust has devastated Earth, **Ulysses Samuel Straker** finds himself traveling through a nightmarish world in which civilization, such as it exists, has gone mad. His mission is to find the survivors and somehow weld the scattered bands of survivors into a healthy society that will form the nucleus for a new **United States** . . . if he survives.

LONGSHOT Graphic Novel

Ann Nocenti, writer; Art Adams, illustrator. \$5.95.

Longshot will return to his home world where he will start a rebellion to free his people. All his nemeses from his

Limited Series, including **Mojo** and **Spiral**, will counter-attack. **Longshot** will discover just how brutal a rebellion can be—and how merciless the forces bent on the rebellion's destruction truly are.

MADBALLS

Michael Gallagher, writer; Howard Post, penciler; Roberta Edelman, inker. A **Star** comic. \$1.00.

If you thought those wacky balls with mutated brains were goofy and gross last year—wait'll you see the wild doings in store for this year! Not only will there be more **Madballs** and more stories in each issue, there will also be some pretty special events! The first one is the wild and wooly crossover with the **Care Bears**! Will the **Care Bears** survive the grossness? Will the **Madballs** survive the cuteness? And will the creative team survive the experience?

MARSHAL LAW

Pat Mills, writer; Kevin O'Neill, artist. An **Epic** **Comic**. Direct Sales only. **Baxter** paper. For Mature Readers. \$1.95.

The government came up with the idea: genetically create super-powered heroes to fight the war that ripped its way across the **Central America** war zone. But they never counted on the war veterans running wild in the streets of earthquake-ravaged **San Francisco**. They never counted on the mayhem. The murders. Most of all, they never counted on anyone being able to stop the craziness once it began to run out of control.

They never counted on **Marshal Law**. He's got a simple job: he hunts heroes . . .

THE MARVEL SAGA

Peter Sanderson, writer. \$1.00.

The final issue of **THE MARVEL SAGA** will be #25. The remaining issues will focus on several of the greatest **Fantastic Four** epics produced by **Stan Lee** and **Jack Kirby**. The series will conclude with the **FF's** first battle with **Galactus**. And #25 will include the definitive origins of both **Galactus** and his first herald, the **Silver Surfer**.

MARVEL TALES

Spider-Man: Chris Claremont, writer; John Byrne, penciler; Dan Green, inker. **Spider-Ham**: Steve Mellor, writer and Joe Albano, artist. 75¢.

The reprint series of **Spider-Man's** classic adventures from **MARVEL TEAM-UP** continues with **Spider-Man** allied in the upcoming year with **Havok**, **Thor**, **Falcon**, **Iron Man**, **Daredevil**, **Power Man**, **Dr. Strange**, **Ms. Marvel**, **Wonder Man**, and **Red Sonja**. **Spidey** and his friends will have their hands full fighting the villains **D'Spayre**, the **Living Pharaoh**, the **Living Monolith**, **Whiplash**, the **Owl**, the **third Rat Pack**, the **Basilisk**, **Silver Dagger**, the **Griffin**, and **Kulan Gath**.

The **Spider-Ham** back-up feature, with its trademark zany puns and satire, will continue with more new, light-hearted tales.

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

George Caragone, writer; Ron Wilson, breakdowns; and Denny Bulanadi, finished art. A **Star** comic. \$1.00.

He-Man's future promises to be not only filled with action, but both he and his friends, **Orko, Teela, Fisto, and Cringer** will find themselves having to overcome many personal challenges in the future. Editor **Don Daley's** plans are to adapt the best teleplays from the animated T.V. series. Among them are "To Save Skeletor" where **He-Man, Fisto, Teela, Orko, and Battlecat** must team up with **Skeletor** and his minions to stop **Sh'gora**; "Fraidy Cat" in which **Cringer** must free **He-Man** and his friends from one of **Skeletor's** traps, and "Just A Little Lie" where **Orko's** attempts at impressing the visiting **Prince Dai** get him into more and more trouble.

MOEBIUS Graphic Novels

Moebius writer and artist. An Epic Graphic Novel series. For Mature Readers.

His stories have appeared all over the world. He is one of the most acclaimed writer/artists in cartooning. And now **Epic Comics** has collected the best stories of the prolific **Moebius** and is presenting them in a special six-volume Graphic Novel series.

Volume One is **UPON A STAR**, 72 pages, \$9.95. Appearing in an English language edition for the first time, the title story reveals what happens when two interstellar adventurers discover the fantastic reason why everyone aboard a remote Space Station has disappeared.

Volume Two is **ARZACH AND OTHER FANTASY STORIES**. One of **Moebius's** most famous creations, the pterodactyl-riding warrior **Arzach** is plunged into a compelling search for love and companionship in a desolate dream world. An added highlight in this volume is a special five-page section featuring five new pages of art by **Moebius** of **Arzach**. 72 pages, \$9.95.

Volume Three is **THE AIRTIGHT GARAGE**. This classic tale of intrigue and espionage appears for the first time in full color, and it contains a new page prepared especially for this edition. The title story finds long-time foes, **Major Gruber** and **Cornelius**, becoming unlikely allies against the plotting of an ancient race of wizards out to control the universe. 120 pages, \$12.95.

Volume Four is **THE LONG TOMORROW AND OTHER STORIES**. The title story is a gripping detective thriller in the tradition of **Raymond Chandler** and is co-written with **Dan O'Bannon**, author of the screenplay for "Alien." Included in the volume are two tales of dark humor, "It's A Small Universe" and "Is Man Good?" 72 pages, \$9.95.

Volume Five is **GARDENS OF AEDENA**. In an all-new story, the adventurers from "Upon A Star" return! And this time they're exploring the fabulous wonders and mysteries of an intergalactic paradise. 72 pages, \$9.95.

Volume Six is **PARAGONESIA AND OTHER STRANGE STORIES** and it is a provocative collection of short stories ranging from the whimsical "Hunt For The Vacationing Frenchman" to such social commentary as "White Nightmare." 72 pages, \$9.95.

THE NAM

Doug Murray, writer; **Mike Golden**, penciler 75¢.

Corporal Ed Marks, whose adventures began with the first issue of **THE NAM** will end his tour of duty and return to the United States in issue #13. Replacing him as one of the series' main characters will be medic **Andy "Aesop" Clark**.

The upcoming year will cover what happened in Vietnam in 1967. Military involvement will escalate and racial conflicts in the services during this period will intensify. In addition, there will be several incidents of officers exploiting their men. In at least one of these cases, a retaliation by the enlisted men will take the form of "fragging"—the killing of the hated officer or N.C.O. by tossing a live grenade into his sleeping quarters.

But the main focus will be on the dramatic escalation of the war—and its consequences on the enlisted men.

THE NEW MUTANTS

Louise Simonson and **Chris Claremont**, writers; **Rick Leonardi**, penciler. 75¢.

"When is it wrong to do the right thing?" is a question the **New Mutants** must answer when they try to help a young mutant who is the product of an ultra-secret gene-splicing experiment. Written by **Louise Simonson**, this effort becomes the theme for a gripping four-part saga beginning in issue #56. The **New Mutants** will uncover the devastating plans of the sinister reactionary group **The Right**, and at the same time they will have to wrestle with some very severe problems at the academy. **Chris Claremont** will resume writing the series approximately with issue #60. And in assessing his plans, he stated mysteriously, "Anything can happen."

THE NTH MAN

Larry Hama, writer; **Ron Wagner**, penciler. 75¢.

What if Earth was the home of an immensely powerful super hero? How would mankind react to an alien who possessed awesomely all-powerful abilities? Those are the questions that form the premise for a gripping series that explores mankind's response—a response that is embodied in the release of the ninja known only as the **Nth Man**. His assignment: kill that super hero!

THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK TO THE TRANSFORMERS UNIVERSE

Bob Budiansky, writer; **Ian Akin** and **Brian Garvey**, artists. Trade paperback. 128 pages \$5.95.

Transformers fans who missed out on last year's popular **TRANSFORMERS UNIVERSE Limited Series** now have another chance to find out about the histories, powers, and weaknesses of the **Transformers**. The **Limited Series** is being re-presented in a high-quality trade paperback volume!

Even the many fans who already have the **Limited Series** will find that this new edition is a must-have item. For the few mistakes that slipped through in the **Limited Series** have been corrected. With its sturdy covers and binding, and its high-quality printing, the **TRANSFORMERS UNIVERSE** handbook will be a handsome addition to any **Autobot** and **Decepticon** fan's collection.

THE OFFICIAL MARVEL INDEX TO THE AVENGERS

Compiled by **George Olshevsky**. 48 pages. Direct Sales only. Baxter paper \$2.95.

A new design and sturdy, high-quality printing are just the latest innovations to be found in the definitive reference series about both the **Avengers** and the **X-Men**. Now arranged on one page opposite the full-page cover reproductions are the complete story and art credits and concise plot summary so that all the facts are even easier to find.

The third issue of **THE AVENGERS INDEX** will cover the adventures in **THE AVENGERS** #s 46-67 and include **THE AVENGERS ANNUAL** #2. Issue #4 will cover **THE AVENGERS** #s 68-88 and include the rare original story of the **Avengers** that appeared in **KA-ZAR** #1. With issue #5 and on, **THE AVENGERS INDEX** will continue its bi-monthly chronicling, including updates or corrections when necessary, until it reaches the stories that first appeared in the early 1980's at which time it will temporarily suspend publication.

Each issue will feature new wrap-around covers by top comic book artists.

THE OFFICIAL INDEX TO THE X-MEN

Compiled by George Olshevsky. 48 pages. Direct Sales only. Baxter paper. \$2.95.

Like its companion index of **THE AVENGERS**, **THE X-MEN INDEX** features high-quality printing and paper and new wrap-around covers by top comic book artists. In addition, complete story synopses and credits are all arranged on one page opposite the entry's full-page color cover reproduction.

THE X-MEN INDEX #3 will cover the adventure in **THE UNCANNY X-MEN** #s 47-66 and include the Angel saga from **KA-ZAR** #s 2 and 3 and **MARVEL TALES** #30. **THE X-MEN INDEX #4** will feature all the reprinted stories from issues #s 67-93, and will index the Beast stories from **AMAZING ADVENTURES** #s 11-17. Also included in the issue will be **X-MEN ANNUAL** #s 1 and 2 and **GIANT-SIZE X-MEN** #s 1 and 2. The entries on all the reprinted X-Men stories will be featured four to a page.

The new stories that appeared in **CLASSIC X-MEN** will begin to be catalogued in issue #5. **THE X-MEN INDEX** series will continue on a bi-monthly schedule until it begins to chronicle the X-Men stories that first appeared in the early 1980's. At that point, it will temporarily suspend publication.

PETER PARKER THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

J. Marc DeMatteis, Ann Nocenti, Peter David, and Jim Owsley, writers; Mike Zeck, Cynthia Martin, and Sal Buscema, pencilers; Bob McLeod and Steve Leialoha, inkers. 75¢.

Following the 6-part epic by J. Marc DeMatteis and Mike Zeck and the 3-part saga by Ann Nocenti and Cynthia Martin that cross-over with **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** and **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** is a gripping 3-part follow-up to the "Death Of Jean DeWolff" drama written by Peter David. It will reveal what happens to Spider-Man when he no longer trusts the instincts he desperately needs to survive. The trouble for Spider-Man begins when he loses control of his temper and as a result causes the crippling of Stan Carter. While Stan Carter tries to learn how to live in a society that wants nothing to do with him, Spider-Man finds himself almost helpless against the merciless attacks of one of his greatest enemies, **Electro**! The climax of this trilogy is *guaranteed* to be a shocker!

Writer Jim Owsley then comes in as the regular scripter of **PETER PARKER THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN** with a compelling tie-in to **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #300 tale that pits Spider-Man against a foe who can attack him without triggering his spidey-sense. And following that action-packed confrontation is an even harder-hitting adventure—for Spidey will be having a rematch with the Iron Man of 2020!

POWER LINE

Created by Archie Goodwin. An Epic comic. Direct sales only. \$1.25.

The boy is Victor Williams. The girl is Lenore Castle. Both are part of the Shadow race of beings who evolved parallel to humans, but with extraordinary abilities beyond them.

As individuals, Victor and Lenore have low-level psychic talents. But when they unite as a team, they become virtual dynamos, generating mental energy back and forth be-

tween them in an ever-building line of power that makes them equal to the strongest beings of the Shadow or human world.

Circumstances have made them unlikely partners. In defiance of Lenore's rich, powerful parents, and with Victor being stalked by the sinister Ravenscore Alliance, the young couple has chosen to make their extra-normal abilities known to humanity. They have decided to become super heroes in the eyes of the public as a device to win respect for Shadow beings and as a way of doing for real what the Shadow villain, Doctor Zero, is pretending to do to achieve supremacy over both humans and Shadows.

POWER LINE is a companion book to **ST. GEORGE** and **DOCTOR ZERO**.

POWER PACHYDERMS

Roger Stern, writer; Adam Blaustein, penciler. One-shot.

The one-time Grown-Up Thermonuclear Samurai Elephants, Trunklops, Electrolux, Rumbo, and Mammoth, are four humanoid elephants who were created as a result of a bizarre accident involving the inventor of a strange new thermonuclear device. They are separated shortly after birth, grow up and finally find each other and band together as four crusaders determined to wipe out evil wherever they find it. And it's a love story.

POWER PACK

Louise Simonson, writer; Jon Bogdanove, penciler. Direct Sales only. \$1.00.

Are the **Power Pack** kids mutants? The accusation that they are sparks an ever-increasing series of problems for the **Power** kids in the upcoming year. The first problem they find themselves facing after that accusation is made is what do they tell their parents? So far they've successfully managed to hide the fact that they do possess super powers from their mother and father. But now, maintaining that secret may be impossible. Yet, if the **Power** kids do tell their parents, it might just make matters worse!

PSI-FORCE

Danny Fingeroth and Fabian Nicieza, writers; Bob Hall, penciler. A New Universe Comic. 75¢.

As a result of events in this past summer's **PSI-FORCE ANNUAL**, Michael Crawley has left the group and been replaced—against the rest of the team's will—by their former enemy, the **Stalker**. The friction between **Stalker** and the rest of the group will change—and threaten—all of them.

In the meantime, **Michael**—the most powerful and least mature group member—will be out on his own in a very hostile world. He will encounter D.P. 7, which will begin an interweaving continuity between the two titles, including a fantastic confrontation between the two teams.

And while all this is happening, the **Psi-Force** will at last confront their mysterious enemy, **Derek Shiningstar**, and will learn much more about their powers and about the enigmatic **Psi-Hawk**. And wait! You meet the last paranormal on **Proudhawk's** list!

It's going to be a big year for **Psi-Force** as they struggle to take charge of their lives and fates, both as individuals and as a group. Be there for the excitement.

PUNISHER

Mike Baron, writer; Klaus Janson, artist. 75¢.

The **Punisher** will meet a Jim Jones-style faith-healing cult leader, **Sam Smith**, who saves him after he has been

seriously wounded in a battle. Then he discovers the truth about **Sam Smith**, his arsenal, his camp in Guyana, and his sinister plans. **The Punisher** will then be faced with a very tough decision about what he will do to the man who saved his life.

The **Punisher's** base of operations will remain New York City, though at times he will have adventures in other areas. The tone of the series will be realistic and gritty. A crossover with **DAREDEVIL** is planned, but in general there will be few crossovers with the super heroes in the Marvel Universe.

The secret of who designs and supplies the **Punisher** with his equipment and weapons and how he gets his money to bankroll his adventures will be revealed. And as for the adventures themselves, expect them to be filled with lots of hard-hitting action.

ST. GEORGE

Created by **Archie Goodwin**. An Epic Comic. Direct Sales only. \$1.25.

Once he was a priest. Five years of imprisonment, torture, and warfare in Central America left **Michael Devlin** with a rage against injustice that he could not reconcile with his calling. Now, the decision to renounce his vows brings him to the attention of the mysterious Order of St. George, members of the **Shadow** race which has evolved parallel with humanity but superior to them in physical and mental powers. They convince **Devlin** he is worthy to carry on the legend of the original **St. George**, patron of warriors. Armed with the Shadow-created cyber-helmet and powerlance, **Michael Devlin** can channel his rage against injustice in the service of human and Shadowkind... but only if he is strong enough to avoid the corruptive power that comes with its use. **ST. GEORGE** is a companion series to **POWER LINE** and **DOCTOR ZERO**.

SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN

Charles Dixon, writer; **Gary Kwapisz**, penciler; **Ernie Chan**, inker. A Marvel Magazine. For Mature Readers. \$2.00.

As the title states, these are the savage tales of **Conan**—more violent and longer than the stories in the color comic. Though the stories are not tied to the continuity of the color comic, they will be featured in their own sequential order in the upcoming year.

Conan will stay primarily in the north, wandering and fighting his way through **Aesgaard**, **Vanaheim**, and the nations bordering them.

The **King Kull** back-up features will continue to spotlight the work of new artists. The tales will remain self-contained. And one of the highlights in store for **King Kull** fans will be the return of the Serpent cult.

THE SCORPIO CONNECTION Graphic Novel

Archie Goodwin, writer, **Howard Chaykin**, artist. A Marvel Graphic Novel. \$5 95.

Nick Fury's—and **S.H.I.E.L.D.'s**—greatest enemy, **Scorpio**, is back from the dead! And he's unleashed the perfect plan to destroy America's top counter-espionage organization and its director. But **Scorpio** makes one serious mistake in his quest for vengeance when he murders a **S.H.I.E.L.D.** agent who was a close friend of **Wolverine**! He and **Nick Fury** form an uneasy alliance to track down **Scorpio**, not knowing he is, in reality, the son of the original **Scorpio**, **Nick Fury's** brother, **Jake**!

SEMPER FI

Michael Palladino, writer; **John Severin** and **Sam Glanzman**, artists. 75¢.

The foundation of this series is a dramatized history of the Marine Corps from its inception up to present times as experienced by the successive generations of one fictitious, Marine Corps family. There will be two stories in each issue. And though the tales are dramatized, they will all be based on actual incidents in the Marine Corps history. Accuracy of detail in addition to gripping adventure will be another hallmark of this ambitious series.

SILVERHAWKS

Steve Perry, writer; **Mike Witherby**, penciler, **Jim Sanders III**, inker. A Star comic. \$1 00.

They're the incredible space-faring cyborgs of the future, determined to save the galaxy from the evil domination of **Mon*Star** and his minions. They're the **Silverhawks**! In addition to adapting teleplays from the popular animated television series, there will also be original tales of the **Silverhawks**. These new stories will spotlight the individual members of the team, feature new **Silverhawks** joining the ranks, and will reveal more about **Mon*Star's** base, the **Limbo** galaxy.

SILVER SURFER

Steve Englehart, writer, **Marshall Rogers**, penciler; **Joe Rubinstein**, inker. 75¢.

Mantis, the former **Avenger** who is now the **Celestial Madonna**, will become not just an ally of the **Silver Surfer**, but also a major influence on his life. Together they will battle the **Elders of the Universe** and try to stop their mysterious plan for the galaxy.

This battle will be a year-long, highly intricate saga of cosmic proportions. It involves all the peoples and races who have either spanned the galaxies or possess cosmic abilities including the **Celestials**, **Cloud**, the **Stranger**, the **Kree**, the **Skrulls**, the **Eternals**, the **Living Tribunal**, and many others.

As if that weren't enough, **Steve** stated further that one theme in the saga will focus on the three major entities of reality: **Death**, **Eternity**, and the wild card of this plane of existence, **Galactus**.

SOLO AVENGERS

Tom DeFalco and others, writers; **Mark Bright** and others, artists. 75¢.

The series you demanded debuts in 1987!

Each issue contains two separate stories. The lead feature stars **Hawkeye**. The co-feature will spotlight another hero from either the **Avengers** or the **West Coast Avengers**. Top writers and artists who have always dreamed of doing **Avengers** in solo action are lining up to do their favorites, so expect some dynamite tales!

SOMEPLACE STRANGE Graphic Novel

Ann Nocenti, writer; **John Bolton**, artist. \$5 95.

SOMEPLACE STRANGE is a surrealist fairy tale of the Eighties that reveals what happens when good children wind up in a place where only bad children are supposed to

go. In the words of editor Jo Duffy, it is a nice, twisted, scary kind of story. **Captain America** will have a key role in the adventure. And the artwork for the entire story is fully painted.

SPIDER-MAN Graphic Novel: THE MANHATTAN PROJECT

Jim Shooter, plot; Alan Zelenetz, script. \$5.95.

"The Manhattan Project" is a tale of romance and intrigue revealing a heretofore unknown story in **Spider-Man's** past. **Peter Parker** falls in love. And his deep affection for his new girl-friend forces him to consider using his new **Spider-Man** powers to further the career, and fortune of **Peter Parker**, or to continue as an unpaid—and misunderstood—crime-fighter. And as he tries to reconcile the problems of his personal life, the **Kingpin** puts together the final pieces of his plan to destroy Manhattan.

STAR BRAND

John Byrne, writer and breakdown artist; **Tom Palmer**, finished art. A New Universe comic. 75¢.

The big news in **STAR BRAND** is that starting with issue #11, **John Byrne** and **Tom Palmer** debut as the new regular creative team!

The focus of the series will change, concentrating on the **Star Brand** itself instead of the person who bears it. The different ways that the **Star Brand** can be used will be explored—and some of those uses will have some very devastating consequences. Possession of the **Star Brand** will even pass to other people.

Ken Connell, the present bearer of the **Star Brand**, will go public with his secret. Will that prove to be a good idea? The answer to that question will be answered very, very quickly.

And what of the **White Event**—the mysterious astronomical occurrence that was featured in all the New Universe titles? Secrets of that will be revealed as well, in both **STAR BRAND** and all the New Universe titles!

STRANGE TALES

Cloak and Dagger: **Terry Austin**, writer; **Bret Blevins**, penciler; **Bob Wiacek**, inker.

Doctor Strange: **Peter B. Gillis**, writer; **Larry Alexander**, penciler; **Randy Emberlin**, inker. 75¢.

Inker extraordinaire **Terry Austin** becomes the new writer of **Cloak and Dagger** with **STRANGE TALES** #8. He stated that with his first story, there'll be a whole new shift in the future of **Cloak and Dagger**. How new? To begin with—they're breaking up and going their separate ways. This breakup will be the opening gambit in the master plan of a major new villain by the name of **Mr. Jip**, who, with his underlings, **Night and Day**, will be making **Cloak and Dagger's** lives more miserable than they can imagine. **Cloak** will link up temporarily with **Dazzler**, and **Black Cat** will team up for a short while with **Dagger**.

Expect to see lots of other guest-stars appearing, as well. **Terry** stated that a story involving **Cloak and Dagger** and **Power Pack** is already in the works. After that, thanks to **Mr. Jip's** manipulations, **Dagger** will find herself coming up against **X-Factor**, with **Cloak** forbidden to interfere.

Doctor Strange will find a new mentor to help him in his quest to save Earth from the sorcerous menaces out to overwhelm it. His name is **Kaluu**—the one-time friend of **Dr. Strange's** first mentor, the **Ancient One**. The two men had a falling out long ago when the **Ancient One** chose the path of white magic, and **Kaluu** decided to follow the path of black magic. Now, with **Dr. Strange** forced to employ the dark arts of sorcery to defend Earth, he discovers he needs help. And **Kaluu** is willing to teach him. Though **Dr. Strange** is suspicious of **Kaluu's** real motives, he decides to accept his help.

Gradually **Dr. Strange's** appearance and attitude will make some striking changes, the most obvious being that he'll start wearing an eyepatch and carrying a gun.

As the sorcerous war to save Earth escalates, **Dr. Strange** will discover that the dread power he must face is the evil godlike entity who almost destroyed him the first time they fought—**Shuma-Gorath**!

STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI

Peter B. Gillis, writer; **Brent Anderson**, penciler; **Scott Williams**, inker. 75¢.

There will be lots of surprises in **STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI** beginning with the **Punisher**. Yes, the **Punisher** will appear in the series—and wait'll you see how it happens!

Not only that, but there's a new, third generation of **Morituri** warriors, and their problems with the alien **Horde** invaders of Earth, and their own government will be getting worse. For instance, tensions that already exist between Earth's government and **Strikeforce: Morituri** will reach the breaking point when it's discovered that one of the **Morituri** becomes pregnant. Does pregnancy extend the life of the mother past the expected twelve-month life termination side-effect of the **Morituri** process? Will the government insist that the child be aborted? And what of the child itself—does it possess powers of its own? And will it be immune to the fatal side-effect?

Meanwhile, the **Horde** has not been idle. They have been experimenting with a **Morituri** process of their own. And what mankind will soon discover is that the odds in their war of survival are about to change!

THOR

Tom DeFalco, writer; **Ron Frenz**, penciler. 75¢.

Thor will be at war with gods of other mythological pantheons in the upcoming year.

First, **Thor** will discover that because there is no **Rainbow Bridge** to connect **Asgard** to Earth, he can no longer travel as freely as before between the two places.

And, as if that wasn't bad enough, **Thor** will fight the Celtic gods, the **Celestials**, the **Egyptian gods**... and then he'll meet the **High Evolutionary** and discover his incredible plans for the **Thunder God** and humanity!

Eventually **Thor** will reestablish a new secret identity on Earth. In fact, his whole relationship with mankind will irrevocably change.

As for **Balder**, **Sif**, **Fandral**, **Hogun**, **Volstagg**, **Heimdall**, and the other **Asgardians**? The answer to their fates lies in the war waged on **Asgard** by the **Egyptian gods**.

THUNDERCATS

Written by **Tom DeFalco**, **Gerry Conway**, **Steve Perry**, **Laura Hitchcock**, **Daryl Edelman**, **Sue Flaxman**, and **Dwight Jon Zimmerman**; penciled by **Ernie Colon**, **Jose Delbo**, **Jim Mooney**, **Joe Albello**, and **Dwayne Turner**; and inked by **Al Williamson**, **Marie Severin**, **Brett Breeding**, **Dave Simons**, **Vince Colletta**, and **Mike Esposito**. A Star comic. \$1.00.

Editor **Don Daley** is in the middle of working out with his corps of **Thundercat** story creators an exciting new chapter in the saga of the feline heroes from **Thundera**. All **Thundercats** fans should keep their eyes peeled for issue #25, when he plans to introduce all-new adventures! In addition, the upcoming year's tales will also feature the adaptation of the TV animated series' multi-part saga that revealed how **Lion-O** became leader of the **Thundercats**, "The Anointing of **Lion-O**" which will be written by **Tom DeFalco**, penciled by **Jose Delbo**, and inked by **Marie Severin**. Also, **Snarf** will have his hands full dealing with his rebellious nephew, **Snarfer**. Expect **Snarfer** to cause no end of trouble for not just **Snarf**, but for all the **Thundercats** as well.

THE TRANSFORMERS

Bob Budiansky, writer; José Delbo, penciler; Ian Akin and Brian Garvey, inkers. \$1.00.

When the **Headmasters** arrive from **Nebulos**, the leadership vacuum that has decimated the **Autobots** on Earth will be filled by **Fortress Maximus** of the **Headmasters**.

The Earthlings will then find themselves facing a whole new generation of even more technologically advanced **Transformers**. In addition, there will be the **Nebulans** themselves. How will these people from another planet adapt to the environs of Earth?

At long last we'll be meeting **Buster Witwicky's** older brother, **Spike**, who will find himself dramatically thrust into the middle of the **Headmasters'** battle against the **Decepticons**. The result of that battle will change his life, and the future of the **Headmasters**, forever.

THE UNCANNY X-MEN

Chris Claremont, writer; Mark Silvestri, penciler; Dan Green, inker. 75¢.

As bad as things have been in the past for the **X-Men**, they are nothing compared to what **Chris** predicts will happen in the future. **Chris** stated that the world will turn upside-down for them. And that anything—*anything*—is possible as far as what will happen with the team.

VIDEO JACK

Cary Bates, writer; Keith Giffen, penciler. An Epic comic. \$1.25.

An experiment designed to prevent a small town from being corrupted by the decadence and dangers of the 1980's goes awry. Suddenly the town is bestowed with the incredible ability to conform to any television genre, including commercials, music videos, cartoons, etc. And it transforms TV nerd and social underachiever **Jack** into a hero who must save the town from his best friend who has now become his worst enemy.

VISIONARIES

Jim Salicrup, writer; Mark Bagley, penciler. A Star comic. \$1.00.

Spectron is a world where technology once ruled—and every function in society was performed by machines. For centuries the people had only one pursuit, pleasure.

Then an astronomical event, mystical in origin and disastrous in consequence, blanketed the skies of **Spectron**. In an instant all the machines stopped! Civilization was plunged into chaos. And the ultimate destruction of the peoples on **Spectron** seemed imminent.

But one man, the ancient wizard, **Savanus**, gave the people of **Spectron** a slender reason for hope—he offered them the chance to reclaim the magic that half-forgotten legends said once ruled the world.

Twelve of the greatest warriors of **Spectron** volunteered to undertake the quest to find the fabulous **Power Crystals**—the talismans of magic said to be hidden on forbidding **Iron Mountain**.

The warriors' quest, their devastating schism, the creation of the noble **Spectral Knights** and the deadly **Darkling Lords**, and the battle for possession of all the **Power Crystals** form the foundation of the saga of the **Visionaries**.

Special is the word for the first issue—which will be a 36-page epic introducing this strange new world of fantasy!

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN

J. Marc DeMatteis, Ann Nocenti, and Jim Owsley, writ-

ers; Mike Zeck, Cynthia Martin, and Steve Geiger, pencilers; Bob McLeod and Steve Lelaloha, inkers. 75¢.

After the 6-part epic by J. Marc DeMatteis and Mike Zeck and the 3-part saga by Ann Nocenti and Cynthia Martin that cross-over with **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** and **PETER PARKER THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN**, **Spidey** will confront the new **Hobgoblin**. And he will discover how dangerous a psychopath this new **Hobgoblin** really is. That revelation will cause **Spider-Man** to—for the first time in his life—consider using his powers to kill.

The **Hobgoblin** will be embarking on a terrorist-style rampage, one which will inexplicably attract to himself a Manson-like cult. So powerful will **Hobgoblin's** hold be over his followers that at one point, when **Spider-Man** has captured the **Hobgoblin** and seen him put in jail, his followers will go on a violent rampage in an effort to force the release of their leader. The **Hobgoblin** will eventually be freed, and it is then that things will get worse. The police can't stop him. The courts are powerless to effectively control his fanatical army. And, **Spider-Man** will suddenly find himself thinking more and more about using his powers to kill.

WEST COAST AVENGERS

Steve Englehart, writer; Al Milgrom, penciler; Mike Machlan, inker. 75¢.

Issues #s 26-28 will feature the return of both evil **Zodiac** teams and clear up the questions concerning the human **Zodiac** group and the android one. It promises to be a big summer spectacular filled with super-villains, **Steve Englehart** predicted.

After that, the **West Coast Avengers** will find themselves fighting **Ultron**—though **Steve** refused to say which one. Also appearing will be the **Vision** and the **Scarlet Witch**, the new **Dr. Pym**, and **Moon Knight**. "Tigra will find herself attracted to **Moon Knight**," **Steve** said, "And that will lead to some interesting situations." One of the incidents with **Mockingbird** in the "Lost in Space/Time" saga will come back to haunt her, and how **Mockingbird** deals with the event will cause a lot of trouble for the **West Coast Avengers**.

WOLFPACK

Larry Hama, writer; Ron Wilson, penciler; Kyle Baker, inker. 75¢.

Wolfpack is a non-mutant ninja South Bronx street gang who must fight a mysterious evil group called the **Nine** in order to keep the balance between good and evil in the world equal. The stories will be gutsy, intrigue-laden adventures that reflect the basic issues of their scarred environment.

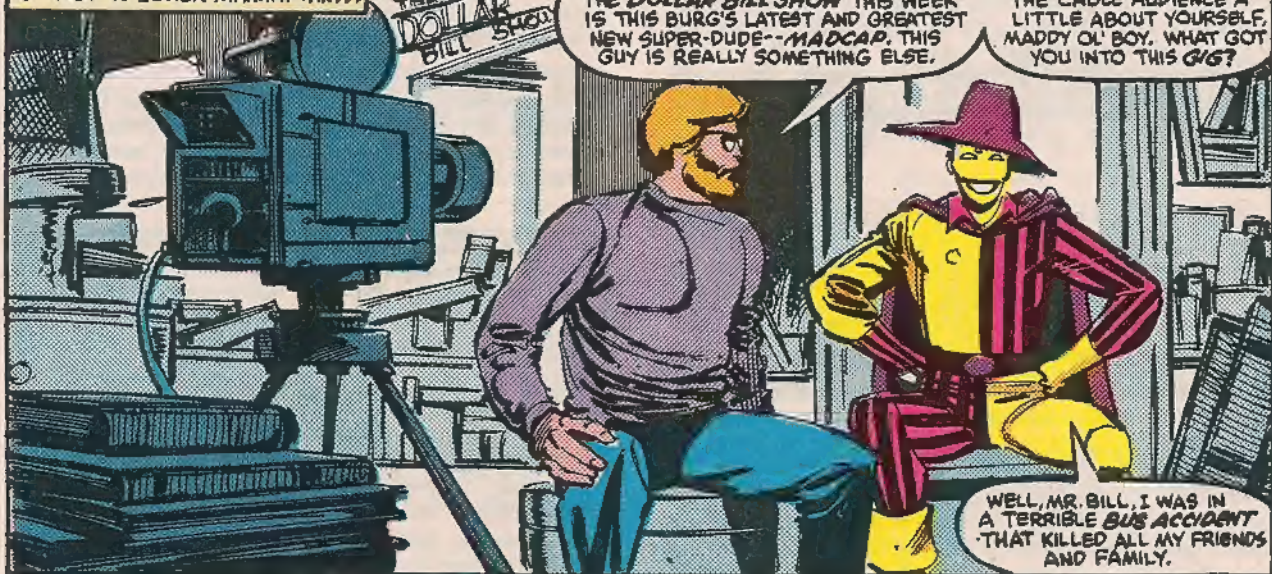
In addition the adventures will take place over the passage of real time with the result that the kids introduced in the first issue will grow older and eventually leave the **Wolfpack**. They'll be replaced by other, younger, kids who have been trained to take their places.

X-FACTOR

Louise Simonson, writer; Walter Simonson, penciler; Bob Wiacek, inker. 75¢.

X-FACTOR #21 features the destruction of the team as we know it. Everything about **X-Factor** will change. Their headquarters will be destroyed. Their costumes will change. Their future will appear to be non-existent. How **Cyclops**, **Marvel Girl**, **Caliban**, and the **Beast** and their friends survive the attacks from the **Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse**—especially after they discover the identity of the **Fourth Horseman**, **Death**, will be only one of many challenges confronting them.

A LOFT SOUTH OF HOUSTON STREET IN LOWER MANHATTAN...



OKAY, MEDIA MAVENS-- MY GUEST ON THE DOLLAR BILL SHOW THIS WEEK IS THIS BURG'S LATEST AND GREATEST NEW SUPER-DUDE-- MADCAP. THIS GUY IS REALLY SOMETHING ELSE.

SO HOW 'BOUT TELLING THE CABLE AUDIENCE A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF, MADDY OL' BOY. WHAT GOT YOU INTO THIS GIG?

WELL, MR. BILL, I WAS IN A TERRIBLE BUS ACCIDENT THAT KILLED ALL MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

1. **Bill Clayton**, who led them through Europe on the trail of drug suppliers.

2. **Diana**, after the Greek goddess.

3. **Dollar Bill** — he was all set to videotape Madcap for cable TV!

4. **Bob Frank**, a.k.a. **Nuklo**.

5. **Underground Liberated Totally Integrated Mobile Army To Unite Mankind**. (Don't you miss the old days when all you had to remember was **S.H.I.E.L.D.**, **AIM**, and **LMD**?)

6. **Clementine D'Arbanville**, long-time friend to **Northstar**.

7. **Peter Parker**, of course, while he was "missing in action!"

8. That dread nemesis (if you know what we mean) of evil, **Justice Peace**.

9. **Datta**, the **Smartship**.

10. **Sharon Banks** — is she breathing easier these days!

11. **Shan's** brother **Leong** and sister **Nga** were metamorphosized into the team known as **Template**.

12. **Goliath**, **Mr. Hyde**, the **Wrecker**, **Thunderball**, **Bulldozer**, and **Pile-driver**.

13. **Iron Mask**, **Hurricane**, **Rattler**, **Red Raven**, the **Fat Man**, **Dr. Danger**, and as a special surprise, the **Living Totem**!

14. The **Crimson Commando** recently played "The Most Dangerous Game" with **Storm** — joined, of course, by his colleagues **Super Sabre** and **Stonewall**.

15. The **ExTechOp** division of **S.H.I.E.L.D.**, specialists in cyborg operations.

16. **Alicia's** old friend, **Gordon Brewster**.

17. **Namor's** old friend, **Lord Vashti**.

18. It's where **Thor** does his forging — first of his hammer, lately of his new armor!

19. **Craig Saunders**.

20. **Spacebell Firewatch**, a joint project of **NASA** and **MIT**.

21. **Nightmask** — obviously they all drew straws and he lost!

22. **Madeline Pryor** — at least, before her mysterious disappearance!

23. They were all musicians in **Lila Cheny's** band — the guys are still with her, but **Alison's** busy with a few other things these days!

24. **The Slug** — which is why you should never try to put him in a vending machine!

25. **Grasp**, **Chain**, and **Sonic** are the members of the **Seekers**.

26. **Umbra** and **Jaagur** — along with the **Seekers**, another group whose names somehow sound right for a rock band . . .

27. **St. Vincent's Hospital**.

28. **Strabonus**, emperor of **Koth** and a real fun guy, to boot.

29. **Natasha**, the **Black Widow**, in the pages of **DAREDEVIL**.

30. **Enitharmon the Weaver** — who, judging by his disciple **Rintrah**, is one of the true **Equal Opportunity Employers**.

31. **Joachim** — surely you've seen **Hank Pym** talking to him for one panel every six issues?

32. **Peter Rasputin**, **Colossus**, as shown for the first time in **CLASSIC X-MEN**.

33. **Silver Sable** (who undoubtedly had operators standing by).

34. **Hercules** — he was probably out paying his **Blue Cross Insurance**!

35. **Northwestern University**.

36. **The Ajax** (one clean ship).

37. **Dr. Kimmon Tuolema**.

38. The rather incompetent **Dennis Lawrence**.

39. **Tonle Sap**, the great lake of **Kampuchea**.

40. **POWER MAN** and **IRON FIST** ended with **Luke Cage** running from the law — much in the same fashion as **Reno Jones** of **THE GUNHAWKS**, over a decade before!

**WAR. WAR. WAR.
IT'S ENOUGH TO GIVE A ROBOT A HEADACHE.**



THE TRANSFORMERS:
 HEAD
MASTERS™

A FOUR ISSUE BI-MONTHLY LIMITED SERIES
BOB BUDIANSKY • FRANK SPRINGER • AKIN & GARVEY